

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "POWAN," 2,358 tons Captain W. A. Valentine.
 "FATHAN," 2,350 " " R. D. Thomas.
 "KINSHAN," 1,995 " " J. J. Louisa.
 Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily, at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 9 P.M. (Saturday excepted).
 Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted).
 These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

ICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HONAM," 2,363 tons Captain H. D. Jones.
 Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 2 P.M.
 Sunday Special Excursions leaving Hongkong at 9.30 A.M., and a second departure about 7 P.M.
 Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 7.30 A.M.
 On Saturdays a Second Departure about 7.30 P.M. On Sundays at 3 P.M. (See Special Express).

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN," 2,319 tons Captain T. Hamlin.
 Departures from Macao to Canton on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 7.30 A.M.
 Departures from Canton to Macao on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 7.30 A.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H. K., C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDU-CHINA STEAM-NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," 588 tons Captain J. Wilcox.
 "NANNING," 569 " " G. Butchart.
 One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., Hotel Mansions, (First Floor) opposite the Hongkong Hotel, Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD. (10)

Hongkong, 5th November, 1906.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

JAVAS	JAPAN	First half December	JAVA PORTS	First half December
TJIBODAS	JAPAN	First half December	JAPAN	First half December
TJIPANAS	JAVA	First half December	JAPAN	First half December
TJILIWONG	JAPAN	First half December	JAVA PORTS	First half December
TJIMAH	JAPAN	Second half December	JAVA PORTS	Second half December
TJILATJAP	JAVA	First half January	JAPAN	First half January

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

THE HEAD AGENCY OF THE

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE.

Telephone No. 375, YORK BUILDINGS, 1st Floor. Hongkong, 26th November, 1906. (15)

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP CO.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SAN-UI."

SAILING TWICE A WEEK. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES 54 DAYS.
 The steamers sail from HONGKONG to SAMSHUI, SHUIHING, TAKHING and WUCHOW. They pass through the Canton delta, and steam up about 150 miles through the gorges, and beautiful scenery of the West River.

Fare for the Round Trip \$30
 These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted by Electricity.
 For further information, apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS, WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. CO., HONGKONG. (14)

Hongkong, 6th October, 1906.

EYES



RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN, 8, PEDDER STREET, HONGKONG.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements. Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.
 LONDON, CALCUTTA, SHANGHAI, 59, Bentinck Street. 555, Nanking Road. Hongkong, 27th November, 1906. (48)

Dentistry.

Dr. M. K. CHAN, THE LATEST METHOD of the AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY, 37, DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL. From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A. Hongkong, 12th July, 1906. (170)

TSIN TING, LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY, STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUIAR STREET. REASONABLE FEES. Consultation Free. Hongkong, 20th July, 1906. (164)

Mails.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

EUROPEAN LINE.

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUER, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG; PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS;

ALSO

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers and luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the principal places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 19th December.
PRINZ BITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 2nd January, 1907.
SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY, 16th January.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 30th January.
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY, 13th February.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 27th February.
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY, 13th March.
PRINZ LUDWIG	WEDNESDAY, 27th March.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 10th April.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 24th April.
PRINZ BITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 8th May.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 19th day of December, 1906, at Noon, the Steamship PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD, Captain H. Kirchner, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 17th December, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 18th December, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 18th December.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.00 and parcels should not exceed Two Cubic Feet in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses.

Linen can be washed on board.

Passage Money payable in local currency at current sight Bank rate of exchange on the day of payment.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
TO NAPLES, GENOA & GIBRALTAR	£61. 0. 0.	£42. 0. 0.	£22. 0. 0.
Return	91. 0. 0.	63. 0. 0.	33. 0. 0.
TO SOUTHAMPTON, LONDON, BREMEN and HAMBURG	65. 0. 0.	44. 0. 0.	24. 0. 0.
Return	97. 0. 0.	66. 0. 0.	36. 0. 0.
* TO NEW YORK VIA SUEZ:			
Via NAPLES, GENOA OR GIBRALTAR	64. 0. 0.	44. 0. 0.	26. 0. 0.
Return	115. 0. 0.	79. 0. 0.	47. 0. 0.
Via BREMEN OR SOUTHAMPTON	68. 0. 0.	46. 0. 0.	27. 0. 0.
Return	123. 0. 0.	83. 0. 0.	49. 0. 0.

In the event of the passenger leaving the Mail Steamer at Naples, Genoa or Gibraltar and travelling to Bremen or Southampton overland THE SAME RATES TO BE APPLIED AS VIA NAPLES, GENOA OR GIBRALTAR, but in this case the cost of the railway trip, etc., to be at passenger's expense.

TOUR VIA INDIA:

Passengers have the option of using a Steamer of the British India S. N. Co. from SINGAPORE TO CALCUTTA instead of an Imperial Mail steamer from Singapore to Colombo. The cost of the journey from Calcutta to Colombo by rail or steamer is however not included.

Interruption of the Voyage in Egypt:

Passengers to Europe and New York will be using an Imperial Mail Steamer.

JAPAN-CHINA-AUSTRALIA LINE VIA NEW GUINEA.

STEAM FOR MANILA, SIMPSONHAFEN, FRIEDRICH-WILHELMSHAFEN, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

(Subject to alteration.)

STEAMERS.	Tons.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ SIGISMUND	3,302	TUESDAY, 11th December.
SANDAKAN	1,793	TUESDAY, 4th January.
MANILA	1,790	TUESDAY, 11st February.

ON TUESDAY, the 11th day of December, 1906, at 4 P.M., the Steamship PRINZ SIGISMUND, Captain D. Lutz, with Mails, Passengers and Cargo, will leave this port as above.

The steamer has splendid accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess. Linen can be washed on board.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	1st Class	2nd Class
TO MANILA	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00	Return \$80.00	\$50.00
TO NEW GUINEA	£28. —	£18.10	£14.00	Return £42.00	£27.15
TO BRISBANE	£30. —	£20. —	£14. —	Return £54. —	£36. —
TO SYDNEY	£33. —	£23. —	£15. —	Return £59.10	£41.10
TO MELBOURNE	£34.10	£24.10	£16. —	Return £62.5	£44.5
TO YOKOHAMA	\$80.00	\$60.00	\$40.00	Return \$170.00	\$120. —
TO YOKOHAMA & back from KOBE to HONGKONG	\$95.00	\$70.00	\$50.00	Return \$170.00	\$120. —

THROUGH RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class
TO EUROPE VIA AUSTRALIA AND COLOMBO by Imperial Mail	£97. 0. 0.
TO EUROPE VIA AUSTRALIA AND AMERICA	96. 0. 0.
From Australia to New York via Vancouver by the C. P. R. Co's steamers, or via San Francisco by the O. S. S. Co's Steamers, and from New York to Europe by the magnificent express steamers of N. D. L.	

SAILINGS OUTWARDS.

EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.

FOR STEAMERS ABOUT

SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY, 19th Dec.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 2nd Jan.

TRANS-PACIFIC THROUGH TICKETS FROM HONGKONG.

Via VANCOUVER OR SAN FRANCISCO TO NEW YORK by the C. P. R. Co's steamers, or M. S. S. Co. O. & O. S. S. Co. T. K. K. and from NEW YORK TO EUROPE by the magnificent Express steamers of the Norddeutscher Lloyd are issued at the following rates:

	1st Class
TO LONDON VIA PLYMOUTH OR SOUTHAMPTON	£62. 0. 0.
TO BREMEN	61. 10. 0.
TO PARIS VIA CHERBOURG	61. 0. 0.
TO NAPLES, GENOA VIA GIBRALTAR	61. 0. 0.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

MELCHERS & CO., AGENTS. (16)

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside, 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft., bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft., bottom 45.5 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 373, 500, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Ed.

Llobers, Scotts, A J, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

(139)

D. NOMA, TATTOOER,

60, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE Public are informed that my Parlours are open from 9 A.M. all day. My 32 years' experience in TATTOOING is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My Colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. H. K. L. The Dock of Yokohama, and H. K. L. The Emperor of Russia, both honoured me with their patronage; besides many others of High Rank. Prices Moderate and satisfaction guaranteed as attested by 3,700 Recommendations which I have received from all sources. Hongkong, 16th November, 1906. (15)

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m.	Every 30 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m.	Every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
8.00 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.
 SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING, Des Vaux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, Liquidators.
 Hongkong, 27th August, 1906. (167)

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO., 司公隆廣李
 CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS, from Shanghai, has re-opened their FURNITURE STORE at

No. 35, DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL.
 The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd. Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference may be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd. write as follows:—
 "We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annex to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Ed.) A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
 ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.
 AN INSPECTION INVITED.
 Hongkong, 1st March, 1906. (166)

KWONG SANG & Co., No. 70, WELLINGTON STREET.

GENERAL DRAPERS, MANUFACTURERS and DEALERS in Ladies' and Children's Underwear, Silk, Pongee, Grasscloth, Fancy and Piece Goods, &c.
 Latest style of Ladies' Blouses and Gentlemen's Shirts made to order.

TRIAL ORDER SOLICITED.
 Hongkong, 1st February, 1906. (168)

For Sale.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$4.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 50 lbs. net \$2.70 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.
 Hongkong, 2nd October, 1906. (17)

F. BLACKHEAD & CO., SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKER.

COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

GROUND FLOOR, ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING, HONGKONG.

SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTIEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM, and P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.
 Hongkong, 7th March, 1905. (51)

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY TRADE MARK

THERAPION No. 1

THERAPION No. 2

THERAPION No. 3

THERAPION No. 4

THERAPION No. 5

THERAPION No. 6

THERAPION No. 7

THERAPION No. 8

THERAPION No. 9

THERAPION No. 10

THERAPION No. 11

THERAPION No. 12

THERAPION No. 13

THERAPION No. 14

THERAPION No. 15

THERAPION No. 16

THERAPION No. 17

THERAPION No. 18

THERAPION No. 19

THERAPION No. 20

Intimation.

Powell's

GRAND

XMAS BAZAAR

NOW OPEN.

TOYS

INNUMERABLE

From 20 cents to \$50 each.

Tea Sets, Kitchen Sets, Pianos, Doll's Houses, Doll's Furniture, Doll's Perambulators, Soldiers, Footballs, Air Guns, Trumpets, Boats, Trains, Carts, Swings, Noah's Arks, Cricket Sets, Rooking Horses, Hobby Horses, &c., &c.

DOLLS

From 50 cents to \$30 each.

Dressed Dolls, Undressed Dolls, Rubber Dolls, Woollen Dolls, Saucy Dolls, Walking Dolls, Squeaking Dolls, Rag Dolls, and all sorts of Dolls.

ANIMALS

A Regular "Menagerie."

BARNUM AND BAILEY are nowhere in it.

Elephants, Camels, Lions, Tigers, Leopards, Bears, Rhinoceri, Wolves, Foxes, Cows, Pigs, Sheep, Goats, Monkeys, Gorillas, Squirrels, Cats, Pug Dogs, Setters, Pointers, Greyhounds, Bloodhounds, Short Dogs, Long Dogs, Big Dogs, Little Dogs.

GAMES

Pip-Pip, Spring Heeled Jack, Plucked Roosters, Fuzzy Wuzzy, Minnows-in-Wells, Figgeries, Tivoli Board, Frog Skittles, Hooker, &c., &c., &c.

Many of which are enough to make a CAT LAUGH.

Thousands of

XMAS TREE

ORNAMENTS.

&c., &c., &c.

POWELL'S

BAZAAR.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

To Let.

TO LET.

No. 8, D'AGUILAR STREET, suitable for SHOP AND DWELLING HOUSE, at present occupied by Messrs. K. A. J. CHOTIRMALL & Co.,

who will shortly remove to No. 64, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Apply to—

K. A. J. CHOTIRMALL & CO.

Hongkong, 12th November, 1906. [530]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE on PRAYA EAST, near East Point.

Apply to—

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, 26th November, 1906. [1142]

TO LET.

ONE GODOWN, at EAST POINT, close to the Water, suitable for the storage of any Cargo.

Floor Area 6,100 square feet.

Apply to—

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1906. [1009]

TO LET.

EUROPEAN SHOPS, OFFICES, and GODOWNS (suitable for Dry Goods Storage) at No. 14, Des Vaux Road Central, (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co.

Apply to—

HO TUNG,

Comptroller Department,

Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1906. [949]

TO LET.

NO. 2, "HILLSIDE" THE PEAK. OFFICES in KING'S BUILDING and YORK BUILDING.

GODOWNS on PRAYA EAST.

A HOUSE in CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.

A HOUSE in RIFON TERRACE.

A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHUNG ROAD.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LD.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1906. [77]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LD.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1906. [789]

TO LET.

NOS. 8 and 16, LEIGHTON HILL ROAD, No. 51, WONG-NEI-CHUNG ROAD.

Apply to—

HONGKONG & KOWLOON LAND & LOAN CO. LTD.

No. 8, Queen's Road West

Hongkong, 7th November, 1906. [1073]

TO LET.

A FLAT and THREE ROOMS, near the Hongkong Bank, suitable for Offices. Moderate rental.

Apply to—

X. Y. Z.

C/o Hongkong Telegraph.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1906. [1013]

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above

Company are prepared to accept First

Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at

CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong 28th May, 1891. [68]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on TUESDAY, the 11th December, 1906, at 11 A.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street, THE FOLLOWING BOOKS:—ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA 10th Edition.—36 Vols. with Revolving Bookcase. CENTURY DICTIONARY, with Atlas and Dictionary of Proper Names.—16 Vols. with Bookcase. LIBRARY OF FAMOUS LITERATURE 20 Vols. TERMS.—As usual. HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 5th December, 1906. [1171]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on TUESDAY, the 11th December, 1906, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street, SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Comprising:—TEAKWOOD WARDROBES and SIDE-BOARDS with BEVELLED GLASS, TEAKWOOD BOOKCASE, TABLES, MIRRORS, CHAIRS, SILK TAPESTRY-COVERED SOFA and CHAIRS, GLASS and CROCKERY WARE, PICTURES, &c., &c., &c. ALSO One SEMI-GRAND and One COTTAGE PIANO. Catalogues will be issued. TERMS.—As usual. HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 5th December, 1906. [1170]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on FRIDAY, the 14th December, 1906, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street, SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Comprising:—TEAKWOOD WARDROBES and SIDE-BOARDS with BEVELLED GLASS, TEAKWOOD BOOKCASE, TABLES, MIRRORS, CHAIRS, SILK TAPESTRY-COVERED SOFA and CHAIRS, GLASS and CROCKERY WARE, PICTURES, &c., &c., &c. ALSO BLACKWOOD BOOKCASE with BEVELLED GLASS, BLACKWOOD OVAL TABLE, BLACKWOOD OVMANTAL with BEVELLED GLASS, DESKS, CHAIRS, SOFAS, AND NEW CARPETS and LARGE IVORY CARVING. Catalogues will be issued. TERMS.—As usual. HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 7th December, 1906. [1179]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, ON TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 18th and 19th December, 1906, at 10 A.M. each day, at H. M. NAVAL YARD, SUNDRY NAVAL, VICTUALLING, OBSOLETE and CONDEMNED STORES, Comprising:—LATHE, TURNABLE, BOATS, OLD CABLE CHAIN, ELECTRIC CABLE, INCLINED HAND LAMPS for SEARCHLIGHT PROJECTORS, OLD METAL IRON, PAPER-STUFF, CANVAS, FURNITURE, MISCELLANEOUS TOOLS, BLANKETS, WINTER CLOTHING and MATERIALS, CASK STAVES, KNEE BOOTS, PROVISIONS, OFFICERS' MESS TRAPS, TOBACCO, &c., &c., &c. Catalogues may be had on application. TERMS OF SALE.—As customary. HUGHES & HOUGH, Government Auctioneers. Hongkong, 5th December, 1906. [1168]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

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Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on MONDAY, the 10th December, 1906, at 4 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF TOYS AND FANCY GOODS, ALSO A Number of GOLD RINGS, (suitable for Xmas Presents). TERMS.—As usual. HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 6th December, 1906. [1175]

Entertainment.

BAZAAR

IN AID OF THE POOR CHINESE ORPHANS OF THE ASILE-DE LA SAINTE ENFANCE, Under the Distinguished Patronage of His Excellency Sir MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

THE French Sisters have the honour to announce that their Annual Bazaar will be held at the CITY HALL, on TUESDAY, the 11th instant, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. They request your presence in order to inspect the different Needle and Fancy Works made by their Poor Orphans. Asile de la Sainte Enfance, Hongkong, 7th December, 1906. [1178]

Intimations.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE-MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that THE NAN YAN TOBACCO CO., LTD., whose Registered Office is at Victoria, Hongkong, have on the 4th day of October, 1906, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Marks, being representations of:—1. The Earth on a fancy background and the words "The Globe." 2. A Raven hovering over a stick and the words "The Raven," an eight-pointed star with the letters N.Y. thereon and a bowl with smoke issuing therefrom. 3. A Flying Horse and the word "Horse." 4. A Chinese Girl, the word "Bell" and a leaf with a spray of flowers upon it. 5. The Chinese character (龍) meaning long life surrounded by five bats; in the name of THE NAN YAN TOBACCO CO., LTD., who claim to be the sole proprietors thereof. The Trade Marks are intended to be used by the applicants, forthwith, in respect of the following goods:—CIGARETTES, IN CLASS 45. Facsimiles of the Trade Marks can be seen at the office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong. Dated the 8th day of November, 1906. DENNIS & BOWLEY, Solicitors for the Applicants. [1080]

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that COPE BROS. AND CO., LTD., of 10, Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool, England; Tobacco Manufacturers, have on the 3rd day of April, 1906, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Mark:—A Rectangular label, in the centre being a disc against which is the representation of a swallow in flight, at the top of the label is the name Cope's and at the bottom upon an ornamental scroll the word "Swallow." in the name of COPE BROTHERS AND COMPANY, LIMITED, who claim to be the sole proprietors thereof. The Trade Mark has been used by the applicants in respect of the following goods:—TOBACCO, IN CLASS 45. A facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong. Dated the 8th day of November, 1906. DENNIS & BOWLEY, Solicitors for the Applicants. [1081]

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IN AUTUMN.

This delicate day speaks tenderly of death, And the dismantled trees before her slow Leave that are lovely, too; Scorch'd to a flame-like semblance by his breath Who glow'd for them the summer through.

A settled sadness haunts the lane whereby, In April, primrose were new and sweet; Yet, after dust and heat surpassing, what a freshness in the sky, And mosses cool for loitering feet!

All is as though the mellow-tinted earth Trifled with sorrow, that she must confess, When woods are flowerless; Clasp a joy that shall outlive the dearth Of garden, field, and hedge no less.

And truly, as I think, a warm heart glows Even in death's bosom, when she lays her hand Tenderly on the land, Whisp'ring to blossoms pallid 'neath her breath, Words I may never understand.

—Fall Mall Gazette.

EARLY WOODEN RAILWAYS.

It is not known with any certainty when the first pair of parallel tracks for wheeled traffic was laid down in Great Britain, or whether it was of wood or of stone. Perhaps the former is the more probable, the material being found everywhere and its long shape being much more suggestive of fitness for such a purpose than stone. But so long as each neighbourhood produced everything it wanted such things were not needed. At last the destruction of timber near London made the use of coal indispensable. This could only be conveyed by sea, and one of the few places where it could be got with the limited appliances and skill of those days was the valley of the Tyne, just above and below Newcastle. About 500 years ago a considerable trade in coal for shipment began there, which soon led to difficulties as to getting it from the mines into the boats. The distances were small, but the art of road making had died out and in bad weather pack horses could not carry enough to render their use profitable. Some unknown benefactor to his species at last laid down two parallel lines of timber for carts to run on. Probably they were merely stout planks at first, but the sinking at the joints would soon suggest that other planks should be placed under them, the structure then becoming fairly efficient. When flanges, either on the wheels or the rails, were first invented, or by whom, is not known, but it was apparently toward the end of the seventeenth century.

These wooden railways seem to have survived throughout the greater part of the following century, and even into the nineteenth in some cases. The Middleton colliery railway at Leeds, for instance, was of wood until it was relaid for the use of Blenkinsop's rack rail engines. These were started in 1812 and were unquestionably the first commercially successful locomotives. Many other wooden railways had existed in the same neighbourhood for fifty years previously, and in 1825 in the colliery districts as well. One was laid down near Sheffield, for instance, so early as about 1713, from the Duke of Norfolk's colliery at The Manor into the town, nearly one and one-half miles down hill. It lasted till 1775, when it was destroyed in a riot. Next year it was reconstructed with the first cast iron flanged rails by James Curram, their inventor. A wooden railway long existed at Bath. It was laid down in 1731 by Ralph Allen, who, having gained a fortune by post office contracts, acquired and developed extensive quarries of the celebrated Bath colic stone on Combe Down. These being at a great height, and away from any regular mode of transit, it became necessary to devise a means of bringing down such a heavy material. The wooden railway occupied the site of what is now called Prior Park road, and was laid partly upon low walls and partly on the ground, "like the wagonways belonging to the collieries in the north of England."

The colliery lines about Newcastle used, in the eighteenth century, rails of beech wood, carefully planed on the top and pegged down to cross pieces, which were even then termed "sleepers." Longitudinal timbers in addition were sometimes used, the extra height being of use in enabling the cross sleepers to be well covered up and protected from the action of the horses' feet. There were usually two lines of rails, the descending one being called the main way, the other the bye way. The cars held a Newcastle chaldron, or fifty-three hundredweight, 5,936 pounds. They were built of fir planks, strengthened with iron straps, and had oak or ash soles. They sloped forward, having slightly larger wheels at that end which was found to ease the draught. These wheels were of cast iron, the rear pair being made solid; of pieces of beech wood dovetailed and cramped together. It was supposed that brakes held better on wood than on iron. Some of these wooden lines ended in a short timber viaduct, where the land sloped much to the river, leading to a shipping quay, from which the coal could either be discharged at once down a chute into the "keel" or barge which carried it to the ships, or stored if no keels were at hand. The wagons opened below to effect this.

In going down hill with a loaded wagon the horse followed behind, so that he might not be knocked down if it got beyond control, which he said to have happened rather frequently. The drivers generally owned the horses, often of a miserable description; and were paid by the trip or "galt."

WATER is a good conductor of heat upwards, but a very bad one of heat downwards. An ounce of 24 carat gold is worth £4 4s. 11d. CHOLERA first appeared in India in the year

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Intimations.

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE. It is a feeling common to the majority of us that we do not get quite the amount of happiness we are entitled to. Among the countless things which tend to make us more or less miserable, the least health takes first place. Huxham More said that sin was generally to be attributed to biliousness. No doubt a crippled liver with the resulting impure blood, is the cause of more mental gloom than any other single thing. And who can reckon up the fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear arising from the many ailments and diseases which are familiar to mankind; like a vast cloud it hangs over a multitude so one can number. You can see these people everywhere. For them life can scarcely be said to have any "bright side" at all. Hence the eagerness with which they search for relief and cure. Remedies like

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION

have not attained their high position in the confidence of the people by bald assertions and boasting advertisements. They are obliged to win it by doing actually what is claimed for them. That this remedy deserves its reputation is conceded. It is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod

Intimation.



A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONGKONG

FOR

ROBERT PORTER & CO.'S

BULL DOG BRAND

OF

GUINNESS' STOUT

(in pints and splits)

AND

ROBERT PORTER & CO.'S

BULL DOG BRAND

OF

LIGHT ALE

(in quarts, pints and splits).

"These are our stout
supporters in our bitter
ailments."

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1906.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee Home Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contributions.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).

DAILY—\$80 per annum.

WEEKLY—\$18 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per annum, proportional. The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.20 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 80 cents per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

BIRTHS.

On November 30, at Shanghai, the wife of A. R. LEAKE, of a daughter.
(On December 2, at Shanghai to Mr. and Mrs. HAROLD HALLARD a son.)

MARRIAGE.

On November 29, at Shanghai, GEORGE GALLOWAY WALLACE to MIRIAM, daughter of William Stead, Shettleston, Glasgow.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1906.

HONGKONG'S CENSUS.

Any census of the population of Hongkong on any particular date can only give an approximate indication as to whether the resident section of the community is expanding or otherwise. The same remark applies, of course, to the census of any large seaport, but above and beyond that there is the additional fact that Hongkong inevitably comprises an unusually large percentage of what may be termed birds of passage. The vicinity of the Colony to the capital of South China and the treaty ports along the coast, with the consequent interchange of commercial visits, accounts in some measure for the shifting character of the population and it affects the census returns very materially. Many Chinese, for example, have residences in two or more places and consider themselves as residents while at each of those places. The illusory character of the census recently taken in Hongkong will thus be apparent at a glance. But it has been suggested on this occasion that the census will prove even less satisfactory than before, for the simple reason that boatmen and others who prefer the freedom

of hotel life to the irksome demands frequently insisted on in private houses, have not apparently been included in the enumeration. Whether that is a fact or not it is certain that many have never seen the sight of a census paper, and if the hotel proprietors jotted down particulars regarding their boarders without consulting them the result in many cases must be quaint and interesting. These remarks are induced by the publication in the latest issue of the Government Gazette of a "preliminary report on the census taken on Tuesday, the 26th November." Taking the non-Chinese population in the first place, it appears that the numbers enumerated in Hongkong have advanced, from 8,431 in 1901 to 10,981 this year, an increase of 2,550 persons. The city of Victoria itself has slightly increased by 876—making the population 7,738. Insignificant figures represent the Peak and Hongkong villages—603 and 395 respectively, but Kowloon is growing by leaps and bounds. Anyone can see at a glance that Kowloon is fast becoming the real residential centre of the Colony, for while there were only 895 persons recorded as having passed the night at that suburb on the occasion of the former census, no less than 2,245 non-Chinese signed the paper last month. In other words, the population was nearly trebled within five years, and it is still advancing and will continue to advance when the railway to Canton becomes an accomplished fact, until Victoria in Hongkong becomes merely a name and a byword. Coming to the Chinese population on land, it is somewhat curious to discover that the total increase under that head during the last five years has merely been 8,750—Victoria alone showing a reduction of 5,372, while there were 71 fewer at the Peak. Again it is made evident that commercial activity at Kowloon and, no doubt, predilection on the part of several, have accounted for the swelling of the native population by 8,825. The total Chinese land population is 242,001, as compared with 233,251 in 1901, a paltry increase, as we have said, of 1,750. Considering that the floating Chinese population has not yet recovered from the effects of the typhoon and that scores were lost in or about the harbour, there is something paradoxical in the statement that last month the returns showed that the natives engaged on Chinese craft had increased in number, as compared with the census taken five years ago, to the extent of 5,485 persons. In the harbour the increase was 4,462; at Aberdeen 386, and at Shaikwan 889; while there was a decrease of 175 at Stanley. The actual figures for each place being: the harbour, 34,991 as against 28,529 in 1901; at Aberdeen 5,637; at Shaikwan 6,448; and at Stanley 700—the total reaching 45,825. Curiously enough, the actual number of boats in the harbour has also increased by 1,010. Everybody knows that after the typhoon the cost of hiring native craft for the discharge of foreign steamers appreciated in a remarkable degree. The conclusion therefore is that either the foreign trade of Hongkong has developed by giant strides within the last five years or that the boatmen who escaped the fury of the storm took advantage of the opportunity and became perfect shylocks for the nonce. The number of boats enumerated this year was 6,846; in 1901 it was 5,836. The sum total of all these figures is that the population of the Colony of Hongkong has increased since 1901 by 16,782 persons. When it is stated that the enumeration between 1891 and 1901 showed an advancement of 62,534—according to the Directory figures, or 60,538 according to the official figures for the census of 1901—it will be recognised that the Colony's population is not increasing at so rapid a rate as in the previous decade. It may be, however, that during the ensuing lustrum there will be an unwanted increase in proportion to the population, owing to the development works in progress on the island and the mainland. In conclusion, it is only necessary to add that the Colonial Secretary specially notes that the figures given are liable to correction.

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

Whatever contributes to advance the scheme for the adoption of an Ordinance for the Registration of Partnerships in Singapore will naturally appeal to the advocates of a similar proposal in Hongkong. The merchants in the Southern Settlement have dallied with the subject for several years, but the divergence of opinion on the smaller issues has prevented its acceptance by the Government. The shibboleth of the Singapore party who oppose the projected bill on the subject is practically identical to that put forward by the Hongkong members of the Chamber of Commerce. They hold that while an Ordinance for the Registration of Partnerships may be desirable in itself, it would in all probability unduly interfere with the trade of the Colony, hinder and harass the smaller merchants and generally tend to handicap commercial transactions. But when it is pointed out that at present trade in the Orient is already unduly hampered by the numerous fraudulent bankruptcies which come before the

Court, by the ease with which a fraudulent debtor may hoodwink the respectable importers of goods, and by the secrecy which hedges round the personal affairs of firms, the case for the advocates of the cause is firmly proved. We have consistently supported those who are in favour of a system of partnership registration, which shall penalise the merchant who is found to be trading under false pretences. For it is not the honest and straightforward dealer who has any reason to fear the disclosure of his partner's names. It is the trader who puts forward a manager as the chief representative of the firm, and when bankruptcy comes, disappears to more congenial climes and leaves the man of straw to clear himself of any responsibility in the matter. Cases without number could be quoted on the subject, but it is needless to labour a point which is already generally accepted. Undoubtedly the great difficulty is to frame a bill which will not injure the small merchant, or the big firms for that matter. The Singapore and Penang Chamber of Commerce have dealt with the question, but while the former expressed their support of a scheme of registration, the latter would have nothing to do with it, or at least, were lukewarm on the subject. The matter was brought before the Legislative Council in the form of a bill, which was eventually referred to a Select Committee. That Committee's report has now been printed and circulated. The Singapore Free Press states that the document, being too long to be quoted in extenso, gives a very condensed account of the chief paragraphs. The Committee, it seems, were unanimous upon the point that some limitations should be placed upon the operation of the bill so as to exclude from its scope petty trading firms. Three methods of effecting this were considered: firstly, by limiting the operation of the bill to firms with more than a certain amount of capital; secondly, by limiting its operation to certain specified businesses; and thirdly, by placing a firm under a disability to maintain a suit against any person in respect of a debt or contract incurred or entered into by that person while the firm was unregistered, and at the same time limiting this disability to larger businesses by fixing the minimum amount of the debt or contract in respect of which no suit could be maintained. It must be said that none of the three methods appears to be quite workable. There is too much of the grandmotherly legislation about them. The difficulty of excluding certain or any firms from the operation of the bill would certainly estrange a large section of the supporters of the proposal, while the differentiation, the species of class legislation suggested in the third method, especially in the second part of the method proposed, would not be relished by the large firms who are thereby principally affected by absconding debtors. Another section provides a penalty for the incurring by an unregistered firm of a liability exceeding \$1,000. Certain changes in matters of detail are recommended in regard to the procedure to be followed in registration. The most important of these is to make optional at the discretion of the registrar the furnishing of a copy of the partnership deed of the registering firm. A similar option is recommended in respect of the furnishing of seals and chops used by Chinese firms. The synopsis of the report is too condensed to allow of any definite opinion being formed as to the workability of the bill as it is proposed it should be amended, but so long as the supporters of such a measure keep pegging away at it there is hope that they will yet be successful. Then Hongkong, no longer deterred by fears of trade handicaps and relieved from the difficulty of formulating a measure, and having the advantage of watching its operation may follow the example of Singapore.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE German mail of the 7th November was delivered in London on the 6th inst.

Mr. Thomas Hynes has been appointed a temporary inspector (second class) in the Sanitary Department, with effect from the 6th inst.

LIEUT. COLONEL G. E. PATTERSON, D. S. O., H. B. M.'s Military Attaché in Peking, arrived in Hongkong on 1st inst. from Hankow and left on the 3rd for Ningpo en route to Canton.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognise, provisionally and pending the issue of His Majesty's exequatur, Mr. Tokichi Tanaka as consul for Japan at Hongkong.

"Drunk and disorderly, to wit, chasing and upsetting rickshaws in Queen's Road East early this morning," was the charge entered against William Steward, an unemployed engineer, at the Police Court this morning. Defendant admitted the charge with a nod of the head, and Mr. F. A. Hazeland ordered him to pay \$5.

A BOATMAN and a coolie were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, this morning, at the Police Court, at the instance of Constable Bernie, on a charge of being on a charge of being on board the cooling ship Cranley yesterday without permission. The defendants pleaded guilty to the charge. The boatman, the police said, went on board to gamble with the coolies; for when he was arrested a box of dominoes was found on him. He was fined \$30 and the coolie \$15.

ADMIRAL BROWSON sailed from Manila on the 1st inst. on the *Wilmington* for a cruise around the islands to visit the naval stations in the Philippine division. The four large cruisers now in the bay will begin their autumn target practice on December 10. This will continue until about December 20, when they will go over to Hongkong and remain here until after New Year's Day when they will return to Manila for their record target practice. During both passages, exercises on fleet tactics will be observed as is usual during such cruises. After the end of the target season, sometime in February, the squadron will make a visit to the principal Chinese and Japanese ports in the northern part of the Asiatic station.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation, and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th November, 1906, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$3,151,441	\$2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	13,045,090	9,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	120,827	45,000
Total	\$16,317,358	\$11,345,000

THE Customs authorities at Canton are turning their attention very strictly to newspaper-deliveries, and lately have arrested several for delivering copies of the Hongkong Chinese papers imported thereto without previously having been put through the formality of being ticketed with a stamp. The last arrest was that of a carrier of the Canton Commercial Daily News, who was taken in charge on Thursday by a Customs officer for delivering a bundle of unstamped papers on board a steamer for delivery in Hongkong to local subscribers. Later on the carrier was placed before the Postal Commissioner, and was fined \$35, being also warned to be more careful in future to see that all papers intended for delivery outside Canton bear Imperial Post stamps.

THE sugar-refining industry is one of the lines of business in which there has been a boom, says the *Japan Chronicle*. Eight large companies, with an aggregate capital of ¥9,800,000, have been newly formed in Japan, while four existing companies have increased their capital by ¥7,500,000. A charter has been granted to the Meiji Sugar Refining Company, promoted by Baron Shibusawa and other capitalists in Tokyo and Yokohama, with a capital of ¥5,000,000. The company's plan is to obtain extensive sugar-cane plantations in the Ensuiko and Kagi districts in Formosa, and to set up two large sugar refineries at Seikoshisho, Ensuiko and Suisoko, Kagi, with machinery of the latest pattern. ¥3,000,000 will be spent on these works, keeping ¥2,000,000 in reserve for future extension of the business. The company's capital has been guaranteed by the promoter and their friends, and no shares are offered for public subscription. The first call will be made on the shares in a few days.

THE troubles in Haimen, in Cheking province, according a native correspondent in Ningpo are to be investigated by a joint Commission composed of a deputy sent by H. E. Chang Tseng-yang, Governor of that province, and a representative each of the British and French Consuls-General there. The French Consul-General has appointed Tien (Chinese name) Assistant to the Roman Catholic Bishop in Chekiang as his representative on the joint commission. In his dispatch to Governor Chang Tseng-yang informing his Excellency of the appointment of a Roman Catholic Priest as his representative on the joint Commission the French Consul-General assures the Governor that his representative is a very courteous and affable person who may be trusted to do his utmost to ensure harmony and good feeling in the Commission so that a definite arrangement may be arrived at which shall bring about peace and harmony for a long time between converts of the different faiths to the advantage of all concerned.—N. C. D. News.

ONE of the first signs in every newspaper office of the approach of the New Year is a shower of calendars which range from the stately block design, through the handy desk calendar, the chaste and gorgeous, to the calendar which refuses to perform its purpose but is recognised to be a wall picture pure and simple. Among those which we have received up to the present time are several which combine interesting designs with the purpose of their mission. The Transatlantic Fire Insurance Company of Hamburg—for whom Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. are local agents—send a wall block calendar of imposing appearance; it is covered with a vivid bronze, and is ornamented by an embossed figure. A handy blotter accompanies the calendar. The Alliance Assurance Company, Ltd., London—Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., being local representatives—indulges in no flights of fancy being content with the severely prosaic and useful, both in calendar and blotter. The well known Yorkshire Insurance Company has issued a wall statement of the days, which is embellished with pictures of familiar York scenes. A daintier device could scarcely be imagined than that adopted by the State Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, which is sent us through Messrs. W. G. Humphreys & Co. The Imperial spirit pervades the calendar of Messrs. Cutler, Palmer and Co., with its Indian scenes in strong relief, supported by soldiers of the Indian army. Messrs. Siemens and Co. have the local agency of the world-wide firm. But for grace and purity, and clearness of expression, few can equal the present which the Victoria Dispensary have prepared for their patrons at Christmas. The picture above, the date block is entitled "Springtime" and is in excellent taste, while the lettering of the figures stands out boldly from the black border.

THE STEAM LAUNDRY CO. LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above-mentioned Company was held in the office of Sir Paul Chater at half-past twelve o'clock to-day.

Those present were:—Mr. W. Hutton Potts (chairman), Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. Edward Osborne, Messrs. R. C. Potts, R. A. Harding, J. Orange, and E. J. Chapman (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts have been in your hands some days, so we will, with your permission, take them as read. We regret that you should have had to pay extra postage on same, owing to the stupidity of the clerk who posted them. The delay in presenting the report is owing to the fact that we had no funds available with which to pay the proposed dividend without borrowing from the Bank, and after all we are only some twenty days later than last year. We are sorry at not being able to show a better result, but this is accounted for by the fact that for the first three months of the year we were working at a loss, owing to the extra expense incurred while transferring the business to Yau-mat. Also the loss of custom during that period in consequence of the quality of the work falling below our usual standard by the disorganisation of the staff, owing to the majority of the old hands refusing to move, which necessitated the training of new. The reduction of the fleet in these waters was also an unexpected blow to our earning power. We consider we have a valuable asset in the land and building, which are close to where the Canton Railway crosses the high road to Kowloon City. The Company has gone through many vicissitudes and trials, but we think we may consider we have overcome the greater bulk of them. We have unfortunately to depend on the native workman, whose natural tendency is to fold up without remark a damaged or soiled article, which brings discredit on the Laundry. We are pleased to say that our earnings up to the present compare favourably with the same period of last year. If any shareholder wishes to put any questions I will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. Harding said he had only one question to ask and that was whether the expenses of removal came under last year's account?

The Chairman replied in the affirmative.

There being no further questions asked, the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Harding seconded.—Carried.

On the motion of Sir Paul Chater, seconded by Mr. Chapman, Hon. Mr. Edward Osborne was re-elected a director.

Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin was re-elected the Company's auditor for the ensuing year, on the motion of Mr. Orange, seconded by Mr. P. C. Potts.

The Chairman—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

THE INDIAN SOLDIERS.

TROUBLE MAY BE QUICKLY SETTLED.

The summons of Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, against Muddi Khan and Allah Dio, both belonging to H. Company, 129th Baluchis, and the cross-summons against Mr. Goldring and Mr. F. G. Barlow for assault, which was set for hearing to-day, by Mr. F. A. Hazeland, did not come up for trial as was at first anticipated, for Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Dennoys and Bowley (Crown Solicitors), who appeared for Messrs. Goldring and Barlow, applied for a further postponement, giving as a reason that the case in all probability might be settled out of Court. This trouble which has created considerable interest among the European community here occurred on the morning of the 15th October. Messrs. Goldring and Barlow, who reside at "Parkside," Kowloon, had been put to great inconvenience by strangers trespassing on their private property, notwithstanding that a fence encircled the property. On that morning, it will be remembered, Mr. Goldring saw two Indian soldiers, one of whom was carrying a gun, trespassing in his garden. Mr. Goldring approached the soldiers, asked them their business, and on getting no reply, they were told to "get out." One of the soldiers, so it was alleged, turned on Mr. Goldring and struck him on the mouth with his fist, while the other soldier made an attempt to bring the butt end of his gun in contact with the gentleman's head, but the blow was warded off in time by Mr. Goldring raising his arm about his head. The blow struck his forehead instead, and caused him some pain for several days after. The assault was said to have been witnessed by two ricksha coolies, who were waiting to drive the two gentlemen to the ferry wharf. It was rumoured about the Magistracy this morning that Col. Price, of the Indian regiment, had intimated that he would like to see Mr. Goldring on the matter, and it was on that account that the case was adjourned to-day. Mr. Goldring, we understand, was refused an apology from the regiment, so what settlement can be arrived at now with the Colonel is not known, unless it has been decided to apologise.

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory. On the 8th at 11.50 a.m.—The barometer has risen over E. Japan, in rear of the depression which has moved into the Pacific.

The depression lying over N. China yesterday appears to have moved into N. Korea. Pressure is increasing and is again high over China to the North of the Upper Yangtze.

The monsoon is expected to freshen in the Formosa Channel, and over the N. part of the China Sea.

FORECAST.

1.—Hongkong and neighbourhood, N. winds, freshening; fine.
2.—Formosa Channel, N. to N.E. winds; strong.
3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamook, same as No. 1.
4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hailou, same as No. 1.

RETURN OF MR. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

BY THE P. AND O. S. S. "MUSKIE."

Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., Mrs. May and family returned to Hongkong this morning in the P. and O. s.s. *Muskie*, being met on board by Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, as representing His Excellency. While the arrival was, of course, purely private and informal, the members of the Legislative Council assembled on Blakes Pier to welcome their returning colleague, and did also a number of Mr. and Mrs. May's personal friends. Upon landing, Mr. May and family proceeded to their residence at the Peak, while Mr. May paid a brief visit to His Excellency at Government House, then following his family home. This afternoon Mr. and Mrs. May and family again visited His Excellency the Governor.

On Monday next, Mr. May will be sworn in as Officer Administering the Government of this Colony.

THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY.

The *Eastern Times* (Shanghai) on 30th ult. published the following article:—

In the Kowloon-Canton Railway there are two sections, which are to be managed by the Chinese and the British. The Chinese, for lack of funds for the construction of their section, had to borrow a sum of £1,500,000 from the British Government, and for want of a competent engineer to carry out the work, they had to enter into a contract with a British Company for its execution. During all that time, the representatives of the two Governments in Peking had been negotiating treaties regarding the railway, and to this day they have not yet been able to come to a settlement.

One of the demands made by the British Minister is a most extraordinary one, and one that engages all our attention. It is: "The Chinese Government after having given its assent to the construction of this line by a British Company, should not permit another line to be built near Canton that would be detrimental to the interests of this line." If this demand is acceded to, then the Cantonese may never expect to build another railway in any part of the Kwangtung province again. The right of building railway lines in that province will be lost forever. The Cantonese may as well fold their arms and wait patiently for the British to bind them hand and foot and to strangle them to death. Can the people of Kwangtung be silent when such a fate is awaiting them?

In order to protest against any foreign demand, we must try to understand perfectly its nature and examine into its history. Since negotiations in connection with this railway have commenced in the Chinese capital the Waiwupu have agreed to many disadvantageous demands from the British Minister. But when these agreements were telegraphed to Viceroy Shum, they were all most strenuously opposed by him; and the demand under discussion was one of those that the Viceroy had so vigorously combated.

I think the intention of the British Government in making this demand is that the proposed Canton-Amoy railway might not be successful, for if it had succeeded, it would not only take away all the commerce of the countries lying to the east of the Chukin g which the British is building the Kowloon-Railway line certainly have an eye on, but also might possibly diminish the prosperity of Hongkong, by making Whampoa a commercial depot through which the Canton-Amoy Railway will run. There is no such thing as will be profitable to two opposite parties in this world; it cannot be that after the completion of the Canton-Amoy Railway, the trade between Canton and Hongkong will in no way slacken, nor can it be that after the Kowloon-Canton is being built, the Canton-Amoy will have as much commerce as without the Kowloon-Canton line.

The British Government might say that this demand was made solely with a view to the protection of the Kowloon-Canton railway's interests, and she had not the least intention to interfere with China's right of building railway lines in the province of Kwangtung, but are we to believe in her sincerity?

I have heard that Peking is now pressing Viceroy Chow. For that he is not to be a strong enough to oppose it. Although this is an affair between the two Governments, still the Cantonese should not be inactive when their vital interests are so nearly concerned. Yes, I know the Cantonese can never assume a passive attitude towards such a matter. They will surely protest against it, and the day of their protest is fast at hand.—Shanghai Times.

LUSITANO FOOTBALL CLUB.

On the 28th ult., Ribeiro's team (A) met Victor's team (D) in the eleven-a-side competition, and the former won by a goal to all. Britto's team (C) met Ribeiro's team (A) on the 5th inst., and the latter won by two goals to nil. On the 7th inst., Britto's team (C) met Rosa's team (E) and resulted in an easy win for the (E) team by 5 goals to nil.

The table now stands—

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ribeiro's team (A)	4	3	1	0	6	1	17
Rosa's team (E)	3	2	0	0	8	1	14
Britto's team (C)	4	2	0	2	7	4	14
Barro's team (B)	2	0	2	0	3	0	4
Victor's team (D)	3	0	3	0	4	0	6

2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

French (*Yarra*) 10th inst.
Indian (*Kunwar*) 14th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of China*) 16th inst.

The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Willhad*, which left here on 15th ult., arrived at Sydney on 7 inst., at 7 p.m.

The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Prinzess Alice*, which left here on 7th inst., arrived at Shanghai on 3th inst., at 4 a.m.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Inaba*, *Maru*, European line left Shanghai for this port on 7th inst., and is expected here on 10th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Tango*, *Maru*, American line left Kobe for this port, via Moji, on 7th inst., and is expected here on 16th inst.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuters.)

The United States and Japan.

LONDON, 6th December.
Mr. Root inspired the proceedings in the San Francisco courts, believing that it will effectually dispose of the controversy.

The Japanese Minister has personally thanked President Roosevelt for his views of the situation.

President Roosevelt has assured the Californian Congressmen that the reference to the military in his message is meant as a protection to the Japanese from violence of mobs.

The Californians are satisfied with this, and the affair is now described as a tempest in a teapot.

[N. C. D. News.]

Cold In California

Tokio, 30th November.
Unprecedentedly cold weather is being experienced in California and its discomforts are aggravated by coal famine.

Japanese Shipping Disasters.

Tokio, 1st December.
The *Chiyoda Maru No. 111*, is ashore at the mouth of the Minato River.

After a sale off the Minato Islands, in the Pechili Strait, thirty-seven Japanese fishing boats are reported missing.

Tokio, 2nd December.

The *Chiyoda Maru* has been refloated.

The Chinese Commission to Manchuria.

Tokio, 1st December.
Prince Tsai Tsen, and the Chinese Commission in Manchuria, passed through Changchun yesterday on the way to Kirin from Tsitsihar.

The Tour of the Aga Khan.

Tokio, 2nd December.
H. H. The Aga Khan has arrived here.

YUEI-HAN RAILWAY.

H.E. CHOW FU CONCERNED ABOUT THE FINANCER.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 7th December.
H.E. Chow Fu is very much concerned about the state of the affairs of the Yuei-han Railway Co., Ltd., and has had a conference with Tantai Shum Tung, in regard to them. In the course of this conference H.E. Chow asked Tantai Shum if he could suggest some method of improving the condition of those affairs. Tantai Shum said the first step to take would be to send a despatch to Mr. Chang To Chai, now in Macao, requesting him to return at once to Canton to fix up matters, without which it will be very difficult to settle affairs satisfactorily. Nearly the entire subscribed funds of the company amounting to \$8,175,561, have been lent to firms and individuals, some of which will be very difficult to recover, as there does not appear to be detailed accounts of these transactions. Therefore it was necessary for Chang To Chai to return to furnish a detailed statement. Tantai Shum said it was also advisable that H.E. Chow Fu should ask Chang To Chai to return to the shareholders'hip of the Company, if only temporarily. The committee to be appointed under the resolution passed at the meeting held on the 4th inst., of which I wrote in my last, could then go into the accounts, which they could audit periodically.

H.E. Chow Fu then asked Tantai Shum which would be the best place in which to lodge the funds of the company, to which Tantai Shum replied, that undoubtedly the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank would be the best place to deposit the funds, were it not for the heavy loss they must bear in exchanging the Canton coins for Hongkong notes, and the smallness of the interest allowed. He therefore proposed to deposit \$5,000,000 with the Hongkong Bank and part of the balance with native banks in Canton, as such places as those, of course, do not need to furnish security. The remainder could be let out in loans to mercantile houses of good repute and firm standing, able to give satisfactory security. By this means it would benefit the money market of Canton, and such measures could not but be satisfactory to the shareholders.

It is understood that H.E. Chow Fu has sent the despatch to Chang To Chai as advised, requesting him to return to Canton without delay, and once again to take up the appointment of President of the Company. Whether Chang To Chai has sent any reply to that despatch yet is at present uncertain.

THE EXPLOSION ON THE "MIKASA"

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The result of the investigations into the cause of the disaster to the battleship *Mikasa* has been published by the Navy Department.

The committee has decided that the disaster was due to the spontaneous combustion of gunpowder or other ammunition stored in the magazine for six-inch shells. It is declared that the disaster was the result of the heat caused to the vital point by a spontaneous change in the powder. No blame is attached to the crew of the battleship in their action in dealing with the powder before the calamity, and it is decided that the officers responsible for the safe-guarding of the powder were in no way to blame, having shown no neglect of their duty.

FRENCH CONVENT BAZAAR.

FONDS FOR NEW HOSPITAL NEEDED.

All who recognise and appreciate the good work which is being quietly and unostentatiously performed by the Sisters at the Asile de la Sainte Enfance—which is better known as the French Convent—will make a point of attending the annual bazaar and sale of work which takes place at the City Hall on Tuesday, the 12th inst. Last year the bazaar was held within the Convent itself, but as might naturally be supposed many found the distance from the centre of the city too far to permit of their attending. The consequence was that the function hardly came up to expectations. On this occasion there is a double purpose in bringing the bazaar to the attention of the public. As most people know, there is a hospital for sick children within the walls of the Convent but having found that at some seasons it proved inadequate for all requirements, it was decided to erect a new hospital in Leighton Hill Road. The hospital is in course of construction, but funds have dwindled away and it is found necessary to appeal to the generosity of the public as buyers at the bazaar. Most of the articles which will be on exhibition, that is to say for sale, are the work of the children attending the Convent. They consist of lace-work and embroideries of every description, and those who remember the display made at the Art and Crafts Exhibition will understand that the designs and general effect are admirable, and that they are, really, works of art. As they will be sold at low prices they should attract the attention of ladies. We are also told that gentlemen will find articles which will be found excellent as Christmas presents for their friends. It should be stated that there are some 400 Chinese orphans at the Convent and it is therefore expected that the Chinese community will help on the valuable work of the Sisters by subscribing for the goods at the bazaar, which will open at 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon and close at 6 o'clock. We wish the promoters every success in their laudable undertaking.

FATAL GAMBLING RAID.

LIFT "BOY" DROPS INTO THE STREET.

Another of those gambling raids which now and again ends fatally to one of the gamblers was executed on the servant's quarters of Queen's Buildings shortly before eight o'clock last evening, during which a lift "boy" lost his life. Detective-Sergeant O'Sullivan receiving information to the effect that gambling was being carried on by office and lift "boys" in the nearby offices, he got together a posse of *lukes* and raided the servant's quarters. Immediately the officers set feet in the servant's quarters there was a stampede. The lights, we are informed, were extinguished, and there was a rush to evade arrest. The raiders laid seven of the gamblers by the heels, although many escaped. A lift "boy" in trying to get away made a dash for a window and fell into the street, a distance of about eighteen feet. Whether he jumped or fell over accidentally is not known. He landed on his head, however, and as soon as the occurrence was known he was promptly despatched to hospital, but he died two hours later from fractured skull. The seven prisoners were removed to the Central Police Station, where they were held, some being released on bail. His morning, they were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court. One of the lift "boys" was charged "with keeping a common gambling house," and the others with gambling on the premises. Evidence was led. The Court found all the defendants guilty of gambling and fined them \$3 each.

TWO BOYS AND A RING.

An apprentice named Li Pui, twelve years old, employed in a blacksmith's shop at No. 5, Stanley Street, was sent out by his master on the 6th inst. to change a \$5 bill into silver. The apprentice ran all the way down to a money-changer's shop near the Central Market and got \$5.31 in silver for his \$5 bill. On leaving the money-changer's establishment he met Ho Chun, another twelve-year-old lad. "Do you see this?" asked Ho of the apprentice, jingling something in both hands.

"What's the trick now?" inquired the apprentice, still holding the roll of silver in his hand. "No trick," replied Ho. "Some business which, if you take part, you will not be sorry for."

The apprentice said he was in that right away, and asked to be shown what Ho had in his hand.

"Do you see this?" asked Ho again, showing the apprentice a ring which looked like gold. "Now, you go and pawn it for \$10 and you'll get half when you return. You need not be afraid of anything," went on Ho when the apprentice said something about stolen property. "My mother gave it me."

The apprentice took the ring and examined it and tested it with his teeth to find out if it was gold.

"Give me the roll of money you have in your hand to hold until you come back."

The foolish apprentice handed over the \$5.31 and disappeared into the nearest pawnshop. He came out a few minutes later, looking sick indeed, but Ho was nowhere to be found. He went to the Central Police Station and told his story to the Inspector on duty, who, on inspecting the ring, found it to be copper.

A *lucker* was sent out with him to hunt for the trickster, but nothing happened. The next day's search also proved fruitless. Yesterday afternoon, however, the apprentice pointed out Ho in a crowd and he was arrested. At the station he was searched and four similar rings were found in his pocket.

Inspector Ritchie placed him before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, this forenoon, on a charge of obtaining money by means of a trick. He was found guilty and the Court ordered the young rascal to receive twelve strokes with the birch and to be detained in gaol for forty-eight hours.

A "ROUGH HOUSE."

JAPANESE SEAMEN ON A SPEE.

Three Japanese seamen, one steward on board the *ss. Calicut Maru*, and the others firemen on board the *Ullaswa Maru*, took charge of a house at Wanchai last night and literally speaking, made things hum, so hard that P.C. Sutherland had to call "Stop!" They did not, and the trio went on. The three Japs had a dispute with the lady of the house and they were asked to leave. Instead of going they drew knives and brandished them over the woman's head. She ran into another room and closed the door behind her. The Japs followed her, but were not in time to enter the room, so they remained outside and contented themselves with driving their knives into the door. At this stage, the police intervened and arrested the Japs, first taking the precaution of relieving them of their weapons. The woman, who was in a terrible fright, followed them to No. 2 Police Station, where she charged the steward with assault and the other two with being noisy and disorderly in her house. They were arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, and fined \$5 each.

THE CHARGES AGAINST A BANK COMPRADORE.

FURTHER HEARING AT KOBE.

On the 26th ult., in the Kobe Chibo Saiban-sho, before Judge Hadano and two Associate Judges, three Chinese witnesses were examined in connection with the charge of fraud and embezzlement brought against Pan Y-chiu, known as Pan Kong, formerly the Chinese compradore at the Kobe branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. Messrs. Ota, Yokoyama and Oshima defended.

Liang Hoy-Chee, Chinese compradore of Messrs. S. J. David & Co., Kobe, was first examined. Witness, who spoke in Japanese, stated that he had held a post as compradore of a bank eighteen years ago. A compradore would receive a certain amount of money every morning from the manager, and make advances or discount bills according to his own judgment, and he need not necessarily obtain the approval of the manager for each transaction. He was, however, under the supervision of the manager, and not working independent of the manager. Sometimes the manager would not allow the compradore to advance money to a particular Chinese customer beyond a certain limit, and the compradore would not consult the manager on the credit of Chinese customers, but would in the ordinary course inquire for their references. The compradore was held responsible for any loss resulting from advances made by him, even when acting within the limits of the manager's order. The compradore was at liberty to advance money on his own responsibility without obtaining the permission of the manager if he was prepared to compensate the bank for any loss. Even though he advance money with the permission of the manager, he was also liable to pay the compensation in the event of loss. Such being the case, the compradore would in many instances advance money without consulting the manager. In doing this, he was naturally prepared to accept the responsibility.

In answer to Mr. Yokoyama, witness stated that the credit of Chinese customers of a bank was entirely left to the discretion of the compradore.

The next witness examined was the Chinese compradore of Messrs. Cornes & Co., Kobe, named Lu Si-yen. Witness was unable to speak Japanese sufficiently to give evidence, but made his statement through the interpreter of the Chinese Consulate. He stated that he had never served as a compradore of any bank, and so he knew nothing of the business of a bank compradore.

The Court discharged the witness, and called in a Chinese accountant in the Kobe branch of the Chartered Bank, named Pan Hong-chen. Witness stated that he was of the same name as the accused, but was no relation. He was working under the direction of the accused, but he was merely an accountant, so that he knew nothing of matters outside the duties appertaining to that position.

The Court also discharged this witness, stating that the Court saw no necessity of examining him.

On being asked if he had anything to say regarding the statement of the witness examined the accused replied in the negative.

Prosecutor Akiba stated that what was most important in this case was the authority of the compradore in the bank. According to the witnesses just called, the duties and power of a bank compradore and a compradore in a commercial firm were quite different. The Procurator suggested that the manager and the compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, or of the International Bank, be called to give further evidence on this point. The Procurator further applied to call the sub-manager of the Chartered Bank to ascertain the date on which the business with the Chinese firm Sie Tong (referred to at the last hearing) had been suspended. The sub-manager should be requested to bring with him the book with the entries of the purchase of bills for the 38th fiscal year. The Procurator further applied to obtain the record of the bill of exchange, which was stated to have been issued by Sie Tong in October, 1905, for the attachment of the property, and found nothing to attach.

Mr. Ota, who endorsed the application of Procurator, applied that the manager and compradore of both the banks be called, and also a Chinese in Kobe.

The Court decided to call the manager and the compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and also the sub-manager of the Chartered Bank, the latter to submit to the Court the book referred to by the Procurator. It was also decided to call the Chinese witness applied for by Mr. Ota.

The proceedings were adjourned until the 12th proximo.—*Japan Chronicle*.

THE ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Governor-in-Council has, under section 30 of the Tramways Ordinance, 1902 (Ordinance No. 10 of 1902), approved the absolute assignment by the Hongkong Tramway Electric Co., Ltd. (in liquidation), of the whole of their undertaking as defined by the Ordinance to the Electric Traction Company of Hongkong, Limited.

It is also notified that the Governor-in-Council has, under section 11 of the same Ordinance, approved of the assignment by way of mortgage by the Electric Traction Company of Hongkong, Limited, of the whole of their undertaking as defined by the Ordinance to the United Exploration Company, Limited, as security for the repayment of certain mortgage debentures of the undertaking.

IRON ORE NEAR CANTON.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The *Manila Times* says:—A mountain of solid iron, thousands of millions of tons of it, enough to supply the whole world with the base but indispensable metal for anywhere, from fifteen to twenty years! Such is the story reading like a fable which Adolph Artz, formerly of the Bureau of Architecture here, and who four years ago cast in his lot with China and is now connected with a big Chinese development syndicate, brings with him on his visit here. Mr. Artz is well known here.

The exact figures of this mighty mass, more valuable than diamond mines of the Rand or the auriferous deposits of the Klondike, are ten thousand and seven hundred and fifty millions of tons. This is the computation as calculated by the rigid and veracious geometrical test employed by modern science in such explorations.

Tremendous as this seems, it falls far below the estimate placed upon it by a member of the Royal Society of Engineers of Great Britain. Striking this mountain a few years ago in one of his prospects, he figured that it had enough of the ore to supply the world for almost a hundred years. So the estimate now placed upon it appears conservative in comparison. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the British engineer tried to secure a concession to work the mountain but failed. It was too good a thing to part with.

The probings of Mr. Artz and other engineers have demonstrated to their satisfaction that the heart of the iron mountain is of the same material as its skin or surface. Within a short time, according to present plans, the work of demolishing the treasure will begin. Good coal is found in abundance in close proximity, while ten miles of railroad will suffice to bring the metal where it can connect with the world. The province in which it is located is Fukien, lying about 400 miles north of Canton. Mr. Artz' headquarters are in Canton.

It is the intention of the Chinese syndicate to keep the mountain all Chinese, in line with the present policy of China for the Chinamen. Even such foreign employees as the syndicate has are not allowed in on a percentage or profit-sharing basis. It is a case of straight salary only.

One peculiarity of the ore is that it resembles that of the fabled mountain of old which wrecked passing ships by drawing from them all the nails and metallic parts causing the vessels to pieces and sink. It is magnetic. Mr. Artz says that the ore when picked up hangs together and forms a string, showing how strong is the magnetism it contains.

Speaking of the Chinese Mr. Artz praises their enterprise, hospitality, and generosity. He says he would want no better persons to work for. Nearly every new employee of consequence is greeted with a reception of banquet and if he be of the first rank he is good for a week's fests. He asserts that at the present rate of advancement China will soon be a power to be reckoned with.

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S INTELLIGENCE.

Buyers:—National Banks \$47, Indo-China \$80, Kowloon Wharves \$92, Kowloon Lands \$38, China Providents \$9.15, Green Island Cement \$20, Electric \$15, Watsons \$11.75.

Sellers:—Hongkong Banks \$805, Cantons \$300, China Fires \$95, Macao Steamboats \$27, China and Manila \$23, Douglas \$40, Shell Transports \$30.6, China Sugars \$40, Raubs \$83, Hongkong Docks \$150, West Points \$50, Hamphreys Estate \$112, Hongkong Cottons \$13, China Borneo \$10, Ices \$36, Ropes \$23, China Light and Power \$10, Powells \$8.

Sales:—Hongkong Banks \$905, China Fires \$94, Raubs \$83.58, Shanghai Docks \$15.107 in Shanghai.

Nominal:—Union Insurance \$762, Hongkong Fires \$335, Hongkong Wharves \$15.273, Hongkong Lands \$105, Hongkong Hotels \$112, Dairy Farms \$17, Tramways \$215.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on the 7th inst.:—Business has been quiet during the week under review, and we have very few transactions to report.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have kept steady at \$80, at which rate they have been sold, and most shares are offering. The London quotation is \$93.104.0d.

Marine Insurance.—The quotations for all stocks under this heading are unchanged. Sales of Cantons have been reported at \$300.

Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fires are firm at \$335. China Fires can be obtained at \$95.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao steamboats are slower, and have sellers at \$27. Indo-China raised slightly in the middle of the week, in sympathy with the Northern market, but close firm at \$80 after sales at this rate. Shell Transports are offering at \$30.6.

Shanghai Tugs have declined to \$15.4.

Intimations.

THE ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

TALKING MACHINES AND RECORDS.

New Stock just arrived
LARGE AND VARIED ASSORTMENT.MUSIC.
Comic Opera Scores and Dance Music.

RECEIVED BY EVERY MAIL.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1906. [13]

MOET & CHANDON'S

HIGHEST GRADE OF CHAMPAGNE IS

"DRY IMPERIAL" BRAND

AS SUPPLIED BY ROYAL WARRANTS

KING EDWARD VII.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

THE CZAR OF RUSSIA.

ALSO SUPPLIED FOR THE

LEADING PRESIDENTIAL

BANQUETS

FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES.

Per Case 12 Bottles \$57.00

" " 24 Bottles 60.00

SOLE AGENTS:

H. PRICE & CO.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 8th November, 1906. [14]

There have been sales of Star Farries (old) at \$20.

Refineries.—China Sugars are weak at \$140, at which price there are sellers, and shares can probably be had at a lower rate.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings continue strong at \$15.10 with buyers. Raubs are unchanged and are quoted at \$23. The result of the crushing for the past four weeks is to hand, showing a yield of 845 ozs. smelted gold from 5,231 tons of stone.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$90, and are firm at \$91. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after sales at \$150 have sellers at this rate. Shanghai Docks, after numerous transactions at \$15.105 and \$15.104 have advanced to \$15.107. Hongkong Wharves are weak with sellers at \$15.217.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels have been sold at \$112. Hongkong Lands have improved to \$105. Kowloon Lands are offering at \$38 and may probably be had at a lower figure. Shanghai Lands are weaker and can be had at \$15.96.

Cotton Mills.—Ewas have declined to \$15.75 at which rate sales have taken place. A dividend of \$15.10 per share has been declared for the year ending 31st October, 1906. Lau Kung Mow have improved to \$15.92 and Soey Chee have buyers at \$15.335.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have changed hands at \$94. Green Island Cements are quoted at \$20. Langkats are unchanged at \$15.237. The fourth interim dividend of \$15.74 per share is due on the 15th inst. Steam Laundries have been sold at \$58. In their report for the year ending May 31st, 1906, issued to shareholders, the balance standing at the credit of Profit and Loss account is \$8,361.48, which the Directors recommend should be apportioned as follows:—To pay a dividend of 6 per cent. (amounting to 30 cents on the old and 15 cents on the new shares) absorbing \$5,149.35. To write off Machinery and Plant \$3,000 and to carry forward the balance of \$14.13 to new account. Watsons have buyers at \$114.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.
London—Bank T.T. 2/2 15/16
Do. demand 2/3
Do. 4 months' sight 2/3 7/16
France—Bank T.T. 2.831
America—Bank T.T. 544
Germany—Bank T.T. 3.30
India T.T. 166 1/2
Do. demand 167
Shanghai—Bank T.T. 724
Singapore T.T. 34 1/2 prem.
Japan—Bank T.T. 1102
Java—Bank T.T. 1351
Buying.
4 months' sight L/C. 2/3 1/2
6 months' sight L/C. 2/3 1/2
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York. 551
4 months' sight do. 554
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne 2.33
4 months' sight France 2.881
6 months' sight " 2.90
4 months' sight Germany 2.36
Par Silver 31 13/16
Bank of England rate 8.6
Sovereign 8.65

The first clock at Westminster was erected in 1288. Its bells are said to have been gambled away by Henry VIII.

Today's Advertisements.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer
"NUBIA."

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 14th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent,
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906 [14]

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamer
"KWONG TUNG".... 1,238 T. J. W. WALKER.

Leaves Hongkong for Canton on each Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, at 9 every evening.

Leaves Canton for Hongkong on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, about 5.30 o'clock every evening.

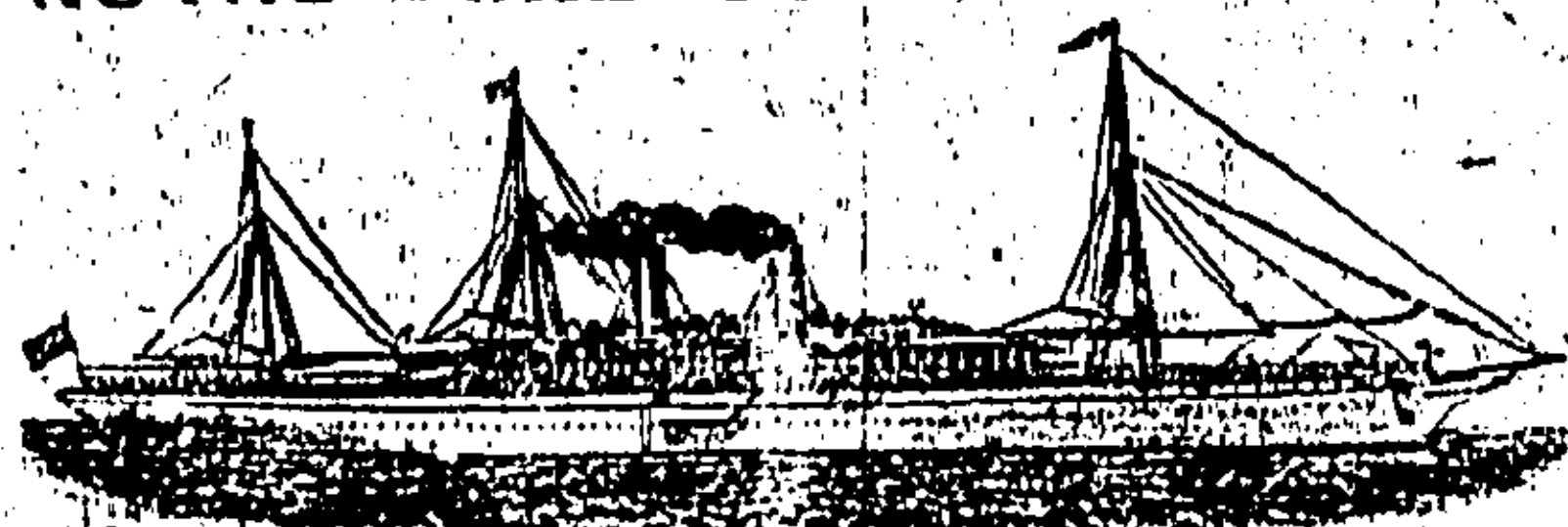
This Fine New Steamer has unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and is lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey... (Servant excluded).
Macao \$1 each.

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.
No. 5, Queen's Road West
Hongkong, 7th November, 1906. [107]

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under Eleven Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days Ocean Travel.
11 Days YOKOHAMA to VANCOUVER. 18 Days HONGKONG to VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS.	(Subject to Alteration).
R.M.S.	TONS
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN".....	6,000.....
"TARTAR".....	4,425.....
"EMPRESS OF CHINA".....	6,000.....
"MONTEAGLE".....	5,163.....
"EMPRESS OF INDIA".....	6,000.....
"ATHENIAN".....	3,882.....

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and Quebec with the Company's New Palatial "EMPRESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 24 days, from YOKOHAMA, and 29 days from HONGKONG.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class.....via St. Lawrence £60. Via New York £62.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways £40. £42.
R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE," "TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" carry "Intermediate" Passengers only, at intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class. Passengers Booked through to all points AROUND THE WORLD.
SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.
For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to
Hongkong, 30th November, 1906.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW.....	CHOYANG	TUESDAY, 11th Dec., Noon.
MANILA.....	LOUANGSANG	FRIDAY, 14th Dec., 4 P.M.
SANDAKAN.....	MAUSANG	SATURDAY, 15th Dec., Noon.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Cheloo, Tientsin, Newchwang and Yangtze Ports.
* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Lahad Datu, Simporna, Tawao, Usukan, Jesselton and Labuan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS.	TO SAIL.
SHANGHAI.....	"SHAOSHING".....	10th December, 4 p.m.
MANILA.....	"TEAN".....	11th " " "
SHANGHAI.....	"YCHOOW".....	13th " " "
YOKOHAMA and KOBE.....	"CHANGSHA".....	13th " " "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOK-TOWN, CAIRNS, TOWILL, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"CHANGSHA".....	5th January, " " "

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.
* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

† Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewards carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
RUBI.....	2540	R. Almond.....	MANILA (DIRECT)	SATURDAY, 15th Dec., at Noon.
ZAFIRO.....	2540	R. Rodger.....	"	SATURDAY, 22nd Dec., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

HONGKONG—NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC
STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	About
.....	

For Freight and further information, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.

Shipping—Steamers.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

BY the new steamers "RHEINLAND," "HABSBURG," and "HOHENSTAUFEN." These steamers offer to the public the highest comfort and safety in ocean travelling. They are especially built for the tropics with very large well ventilated cabins, midships, lighted throughout by electricity, fans provided in each cabin. The berths are not arranged one above the other as it has been the fashion hitherto, but the staterooms closely resemble ordinary sleeping rooms on shore, the berths standing like beds at either side of the cabins. As a novelty, a number of cabins are provided for single passengers. These steamers call at NAPLES and PLYMOUTH. In addition to the above steamers, the s.s. "SILESIA" and "SCANDIA" carry first class passengers. Return Tickets issued at reduced rates, through tickets issued to NEW YORK via NAPLES, SOUTHAMPTON and HAMBURG.

NEXT SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Outward.	Homeward.
FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.	FOR THE STRAITS, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, PLYMOUTH, HAVRE AND HAMBURG.
SPEZIA.....15th December.	RHEINLAND.....14th December.
SAMBIA.....20th December.	G. FERD. LAEISZ.....23rd December.
SILESIA.....22nd January.	ANDALUSIA.....31st January.
SCANDIA.....15th January.	HOHENSTAUFEN.....15th January.
HABSBURG.....1st March.	AMBRIA.....15th January.
RHEINLAND.....1st April.	FOR NEW YORK.
FOR TSINGTAO, NAGASAKI and VLADIVOSTOK.	VANDALIA.....2nd January.
DAPHNE.....5th January.	NUBIA.....To follow.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1906.	[118]

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"YARRA."

Captain Sellier, will be despatched as above, on or about MONDAY, the 10th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.
Hongkong, 3rd December, 1906.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR."

Captain W. D. A. Thomas, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 11th instant, at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th December, 1906.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

Regular Steamship Service between HONGKONG, SALINA, CRUZ, CALLAO and IQUIQUE, VIA JAPAN PORTS. Will be sent to VALPARAISO if sufficient inducement.

THE Steamship

"KASATO MARU," 6,000 tons.

Captain W. C. T. S. Filmer, will be despatched as above, middle of December.

Taking Freight and Passengers to other Western Coast Ports of South America.

The above Steamer has splendid Accommodation and is fitted throughout with Electric Light. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

For further information, apply to
K. MATSUDA,
Manager,
York Building.
Hongkong, 14th November, 1906.

For Sale.

SELF CURE NO FICTION!
MARVEL UPON MARVEL!NO SUFFERER
NEED NO DESPAIR,

but without running a doctor's bill or falling into the trap of quackery, may quickly, speedily and economically cure himself without the knowledge of a second party. By the introduction of

THE THERAPION

a complete revolution has been wrought in the department of medical science, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 1—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 2—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 3—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 4—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 5—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 6—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 7—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 8—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 9—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 10—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 11—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 12—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 13—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 14—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 15—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

THERAPION No. 16—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

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THERAPION No. 25—A sovereign remedy for diseases of the urinary organs, suppurating infections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of structure and other primary diseases.

For Sale.

TUBORG BEER.

A FIRST CLASS PILSENER BEER guaranteed free from Salicylic Acid, and any other Chemicals.

PRICE \$10.50 per case of 48 bottles (quarts) or 6 doz. pints.

Special Prices for Quantities.

Sole Agents—

SIEMSEN & CO.

Hongkong, 10th January 1907.

THE HONGKONG
STUDIO.

HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER.

41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

TOP FLOOR.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS AND ENLARGING AND COPYING in all Sizes.

LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE.

Hongkong, 10th September, 1906.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

This is a discovery of research and experiment, when all nature is so much indebted to the scientific for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made great strides during the past century, and among the most important of these, the discovery of the medicinal value of the human body, particularly of the blood, is of the greatest importance. The human body is a machine, and like all machines, it requires constant attention and repair. The blood is the life-giving fluid, and it is the duty of the physician to keep it pure and healthy. The discovery of the medicinal value of the human body, particularly of the blood, is of the greatest importance. The human body is a machine, and like all machines, it requires constant attention and repair. The blood is the life-giving fluid, and it is the duty of the physician to keep it pure and healthy.

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CURIOUS WAYS OF PAYING DOCTORS' BILLS

It would, perhaps, be difficult to find a more prosaic—and to the patient, doubtless disagreeable—occurrence than the payment of a doctor's bill, yet even in this everyday affair a little romance, or a curious incident, crops up occasionally to vary the monotony, remarked a well-known medical man to the writer.

When I say monotony, I speak of two kinds—being paid, and not being paid; the latter is, of course, the most objectionable. Sometimes a patient offers payment in kind and I recollect of foreign postage stamps in settlement of a five-guinea account. I foolishly declined, and had to wait for my money until the patient was well enough to dispose of them himself. Those stamps fetched Rs. 450.

Another experience of the same kind turned out more profitably for me. I was practicing in a provincial town, where I had a large house and garden. One of my patients was a young married woman, whose life I practically saved. The couple were poor, and I never sent any account in; but a week or so after the wife was about again the husband—who worked in a market garden—came to me and insisted on working off his indebtedness to me by becoming my gardener.

I tried to dissuade him, but it was no use, and during the whole time I remained in the town that young fellow spent three or four evenings every week fulfilling what he considered a duty. I could never get him to accept anything but a little professional advice for his wife and child, and I had the most charming and productive garden in the neighbourhood.

A friend of mine once related to me the following incident, which happened early in his career: He was called in to attend a wealthy but eccentric old gentleman, whose health required constant care. To insure this, the old man made the following extraordinary proposal: If he died during the first year of treatment the doctor should receive out of the patient's estate, a sum of Rs. 750; if during the second year, Rs. 1,500; and so on; the amount being doubled for each year of life the sick man enjoyed.

My friend accepted these, and as the patient did not die until the seventh year, inherited the nice little sum of Rs. 48,000 for his services. The old man's scheme was a clever one, but it did not show much faith in human nature, or in the profession to which I belong.

I once pulled a big City financier through a very severe attack of brain fever, brought on by a series of unfortunate speculations which had, for a time at least, nearly ruined him. When he was recovering he told me frankly that I should have to wait a long time for payment, and might, if he failed to re-establish his affairs on a sound basis again, lose it altogether; and offered the alternative of 500 shares in a gold mine in which he was interested. The shares were worth almost nothing at that time, but they might prove good and I took them.

My confidence was justified, for twelve months later I sold them for Rs. 30,000 the mine having proved to be an exceedingly rich one. My patient, too, I am glad to say, completely regained his position, which he still holds, as one of the big men "On Change."

Another case of brain trouble which I remember resulted in a most singular fee. The patient—a poor man—possessed a remarkable and very uncommon formation of head, respecting which portion of anatomy the doctor attending him was a specialist. No doubt the poor fellow had noticed the medical man's enthusiasm, for when he died, some six months later, it was found that he had made a will, leaving his head to the specialist, for purposes of dissection and in payment of his treatment. I may say that the bequest was made good use of, at least one important discovery resulting from the investigation.

More than one "slave of the red lamp" has won his wife in the shape of a fee for professional services, and not a few have achieved a respectable fortune, at one fell swoop, in the same way. There was the case of a surgeon who attended a boy in a training stable. The lad had been thrown from a horse, and after lingering for some months, he died just before the end of the year. The surgeon, who was of a sporting inclination, backed the horse, and won nearly Rs. 75,000. The boy had given him a "stable secret."

Shipping.

Arrivals.

Kwangtiah, Ch. s.s., 1,536, Wm. H. Lunt, 7th Dec.—Shanghai 4th Dec, Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Wahlu, Br. s.s., 1,170, Richard, 7th Dec.—Wahlu 29th Nov. and Chinkiang 3rd Dec, Gen. and Oll.—J. M. & Co.

Capri, Ital. s.s., 2,718, G. Belisio, 7th Dec.—Bombay 17th Nov. and Singapore 2nd Dec, Gen.—C. & Co.

Carl Diederichsen, Ger. s.s., 774, H. Schalkier, 7th Dec.—Haliphong 4th Dec, Rice.—J. & Co.

Algon, Br. s.s., 4,806, A. Lockett, 7th Dec.—San Francisco 20th Oct. and Moji 3rd Dec, Gen.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Ufina Maru, Jap. s.s., 2,135, Nuno, 7th Dec.—Moji 1st Dec, Coal.—M. B. K.

Siechen, Br. s.s., 1,441, Siford, 8th Dec.—Shanghai 4th Dec, Gen.—B. & S.

Holbow, Br. s.s., 896, W. D. Bremer, 8th Dec.—Canton 7th Dec, Gen.—B. & S.

Hongkong Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,447, E. Bent, 8th Dec.—San Francisco 20th Nov., Honolulu 16th, Yokohama 27th, Kobe 2nd Dec, Nagasaki 3rd and Shanghai 5th, Mail and Gen.—T. K. K.

Nubia, Br. s.s., 3,845, P. J. Fox, 8th Dec.—Singapore 2nd Dec, Mail and Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Shanghai, Br. s.s., 1,307, F. D. Northcombe, 8th Dec.—Canton 7th Dec, Gen.—B. & S.

Proton, Nor. s.s., 838, Seeborg, 8th Dec.—Canton 7th Dec, Gen.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.

Hallas, Fr. s.s., 377, L. Andersen, 8th Dec.—Pakoi and Holbow 7th Dec, Gen.—A. R. M. & Co.

Saint Patrick, Br. s.s., 2,700, J. A. Forbes, 8th Dec.—Shanghai 4th Dec, Gen.—B. & S. & Co., Ltd.

Prins Sigismund, Ger. s.s., 2,302, Lens, 8th Dec.—Kobe 2nd Dec, Gen.—M. & Co.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

For Hongkong.

Manan Maru, for Canton.

Korahai, for Christmas Island.

Hutemaru, for Swatow.

Copita, for Shanghai.

Nubia, for Yokohama.

Laertes, for Saigon.

Seachuen, for Canton.

Clara Johnson, for Hongkong.

Hongkong, for Hongkong.

Holbow, for Hongkong.

Wahlu, for Canton.

Chongking, for Canton.

Rafaburi, for Swatow.

Departures.

Copita, for San Francisco.

Amelia, for Shanghai, &c.

Hongkong, for Hongkong.

Aradilla, for Calcutta.

Rafaburi, for Bangkok.

Glavon, for Singapore.

Quarta, for Swatow.

Settling, for Foochow.

Darya Maru, for Moji.

Zifra, for Manila.

Proton, for Kowloon.

Antelope, for Kowloon.

Kwangtiah, for Canton.

Chongking, for Canton.

Passengers arrived.

Per Capri, from Singapore—Capt. Josef D. Freire and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jose De Costa, and 104 Chinese.

Per Kwangtiah, from Shanghai—Capt. W. A. Morgan, Mr. Charles La Mache, Lieut. Pielli Fortunato, (Italian Navy), and 128 Chinese.

Per Hongkong Maru, from San Francisco—Miss Winifred Ashby, Messrs. J. R. Peatty, G. J. Cribbs, Phoebe Ellison, H. A. Forester, Miss Anna M. Freeman, Capt. John J. Gallant, Miss Anna M. Heath, Mrs. A. Hoffman, Mrs. G. L. James, Miss Gladis James, Messrs. H. N. Knight, C. M. Morgan, W. J. Muldown, A. S. Thompson, and Miss E. D. Jones. From Yokohama—Mrs. H. H. Norwood, Misses A. Mills, Etta Fielder Mr. and Mrs. H. Parrish, Mrs. H. H. Hart, Miss J. Polhemus, Mr. R. M. Corwin, and Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Cameron. From Kobe—Mrs. J. A. Cozine, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Diver, Mr. J. F. Fisher, Mrs. E. W. Gilmore, Mr. C. J. Judd, Miss C. L. Judd, Messrs. E. R. Newman, W. J. Toomey, Dr. F. J. Thacher, and Mr. Chas. E. Stokes. From Shanghai—Messrs. N. Harding, A. Brooke-Smith and native servant, C. C. Moxon and native servant, C. H. Ross and native servant, W. H. Farie, F. W. Sargent, Mrs. Turner, Mr. Chu Ping Tsung, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Tubbs, Messrs. J. T. Burr, W. A. McCord, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pike, Messrs. O. S. Fleishman, G. D. McGee, 244 Chinese, and 3 Japanese.

Per Capita, from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. W. J. Wood, Hon. Arthur F. Odlin, Miss G. Lamar, Mr. W. C. C. J. McNitt, Messrs. J. M. Riggs, M. Okada, F. A. van der Loos, C. H. Fallon, Mrs. J. Carlton, and Mr. John S. Gilles.

Per Prins Sigismund, from Japan for Hongkong—Messrs. To Goo Bark, J. Yokumoto, Lam Ju Boor, Mr. E. Benishon, Messrs. Lee Tong Lee, Lee Kow, Lee Tan, Tang Lok, Tang King, M. and T. Shiotsu, Miss Hiro Nojima, Mrs. Mijio Nojima, and Mr. S. Araki. From Manila—Mrs. C. Reyes, T. Areola, and H. Alonzo. From Sydney—Messrs. C. G. Rosenorn, A. E. Armbruster and N. Kilasul Kow.

Shipping Reports.

Str. Kwangtiah from Shanghai:—Fresh moon and fine weather.

Str. Seachuen from Shanghai:—Strong NE wind and high sea throughout.

Vessels in Port.

STKAMAR.

Anghin, Ger. s.s., 1,218, Chr. Kumpel, 3rd Dec.—Bangkok 23rd Nov. and Holbow 1st Dec, Rice.—B. & S.

Boarben, Fr. s.s., 990, Lo Bail, 30th Nov.—Sigon 24th Nov., Rice.—Man Fat.

Cairo, Nor. s.s., 1,381, J. Larsen, 29th Nov.—Sourabaya 18th Nov., Gen. and Sugar.

Aagaard, Thoresen & Co. S. Hirai, 30th Nov.—Sigon 22nd Nov., Gen.—Shuntai S. N. Co.

Catherine Apar, Br. s.s., 1,730, W. D. A. Thomas, 4th Dec.—Calcutta via Penang and Singapore 27th Nov., Gen.—D. S. & Co., Ltd.

Chowlat, Ger. s.s., 1,115, W. Möllermann, 7th Dec.—Bangkok and Swatow 26th Nov., Rice and Gen.—B. & S.

Crangle, Br. s.s., 2,920, W. E. Steele, 2nd Dec.—Chaofo and Ching-wan-tai 27th Nov., Ballast.—G. L. & Co.

Dagud, Nor. s.s., 788, S. Steensen, 30th Nov.—Moji 24th Nov., Coal.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.

Derwent, Br. s.s., 1,565, J. Jenkins, 23rd Nov.—Sigon 17th Nov., Gen.—Man Fat & Co.

Devawongse, Ger. s.s., 1,057, T. V. Bruhn, 2nd Dec.—Swatow 1st Dec, Rice.—B. & S.

Ships Passed The Canal.

3rd November—*Graustein*, *Bingo Maru*, *Polynesian*, *Kanagawa Maru*, 6th November—*Amelia*, *China*, *Hohentauern*, *Cyclops*, 10th November—*Macdon*, *India*, *Oceanic*, *Fling Nany*, *Stavros*, 13th November—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 17th November—*Achille*, *Glenloch*, *Indramayu*, *Kintoch*, *Palermo*, *Yarra*, *Wakama*, *Radnorshire*, *Kawachi Maru*, *Sikh*, *Prins Ludwlg*, 20th November—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 24th November—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 27th November—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 30th November—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 3rd December—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, 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February—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 21st February—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 24th February—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 27th February—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 30th February—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 3rd March—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 6th March—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 9th March—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, *Bancon*, *Sophia*, *Rickman*, *Christina*, *Indra*, *Amalia*, *Prins Edt Friedrich*, 12th March—*Bencluch*, *Savina*, 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G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
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Hongkong, 30th November, 1906. (11)

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Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000 \$10,250,000 \$10,250,000	\$1,712,472	\$1.15/- @ Ex. 2/11 = \$16.47 for first half year 1906	1 1/2 %	\$20.1000 London 26 1/2
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$1,725,000 \$1,725,000 \$150,000	\$74,099	\$2 (London 3/8) for 1905	1 1/2 %	\$27
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,675,000 \$200,000	\$733,638	\$20 for 1905	6 1/2 %	\$300
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 100,000 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 50,000	Tls. 185,529	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for year ended 30.6.1906	6 %	Tls. 85 sellers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$100	\$2,000,000 \$2,000,000 \$1,153,844 \$				

The Hongkong Telegraph.

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(ESTABLISHED 1861.)

NEW SERIES No 5580

第三十月十年二十三光緒

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1906.

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The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1906.

THE PIOUS ST. ANDREW.

(1st December.)

Yesterday, the 30th of November, was, as every person of education and discernment should know and appreciate, the feast-day of the pious Saint Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland and all the Scots. As far as our limited knowledge of the good Saint goes, we can only recall the fact that he was really an Irishman, who was born during the latter half of the 9th Century, and migrated to Scotland, where he began and ended his life of proselytism. That the Scots adopted St. Andrew and subsequently made him their Patron Saint, shows that he must have been a very proper and popular kind of priest; but the adoption of St. Andrew by the Scots, was only, after all, a kind of tit-for-tat for the adoption by the Irish of St. Patrick, who, for his part, was a Scotchman from Kilmarnock, the inference being that what Scotland lost in one way, she gained in another. St. Andrew moreover had not that gruesome habit, peculiar to St. Patrick, of chasing snakes about the country of his adoption. From this we might very appropriately draw some inference as to the superiority of Scotch whisky for Irish immigrants, over Irish whisky for Scotch visitors,—but we refrain. St. Andrew is represented in art as a very venerable man with flowing white locks and beard, holding the gospel in his hand, and leaning upon a transverse cross. This portrayal of the Scottish Saint is, however, we think wrong, and causes him to be confused with that St. Andrew, one of the Apostles, who was subsequently crucified. In bonnet Scotland we believe, the feast of St. Andrew is not kept with that vigorous regard, which has been paid to it in the East during the greater part of a century. The pursuit of the veritable Andrievian cult seems to have originated with that picked band of Scotchmen, who, in common with their English and Irish brethren, left their native land to serve under the *agis* of old "John Company," in that golden and bejewelled chartered territory which has since become British India. In those days it was the custom in India,—for want of a better or more fittingly opportune occasion upon which the exiled Scot might meet his brother-Scot,—to make St. Andrew's feast the signal for a general gathering of the Clans, when the Macintosh might commune with the McTavish, and the McPherson with both, and all,—with the moderate means for feasting and merrymaking that they had, in those days of limitations, at their disposal, might toast the memory of their pious Patron Saint,—and each other,—until the opportunity should come round again the next year for doing the same thing again. This fine old custom has, in the course of nearly half a century, so ripened and spread, that from Aden to Yokohama, and from Vladivostok to Invercarigill, (N.Z.) the time honoured Saint-day has become the synonym for one of jovial junketing and open hospitality, such as only the Scot knows how to lavish upon his brethren and his friends when he sets himself the task of entertaining them. It has been prophesied that when some intrepid explorer shall finally succeed in reaching the North Pole, he will find sitting astride it a Scotchman, who will naturally have "got there first!" We sincerely hope that the intrepid explorer aforesaid may be lucky enough to make his appearance at the Pole on a 30th of November, for should this be the case, he will inevitably meet with a welcome so warm, that the ice in those parts will melt for miles in every direction. The Scotchmen who have come before us into the East, and who, thank Heaven, still continue to come, have in the majority of cases, proved themselves by their successes in finance, in commerce, and in Society, to be able to walk in advance of their less long-headed, more conservative and slower English and Irish brethren, and if these virtues be in any way due to the guiding influence of their Patron Saint, then, let us, we suggest, lend St. George and St. Patrick temporarily, say, to our Colonials, and enlist ourselves under the blue banner which bears the transverse white cross of pious St. Andrew.

CHINA AFFAIRS.

(3rd December.)

Although the report of Mr. Alex. Hosié, the British Acting Commercial Attaché, on the foreign trade of China for 1904-05, which has just been issued is rather belated, it forms interesting reading by reason of the asides in which so competent an authority on Chinese affairs indulges. The main figures have already appeared in our columns when they were published by the Customs Statistician, and it is not necessary to go into details now, beyond stating that during the period under review China enjoyed comparative prosperity. It has been frequently averred that China is a poor country and even the fact that the merchants and guilds have combined to provide the capital for local enterprises the idea has not been dissipated. The fact that the percentage of exports to imports has been gradually increasing has induced in the superficial mind the belief that one of these days China will find herself unable to meet her obligations abroad. Minute inquiries into

the question, however, do not in any respect support that suggestion. Mr. Hosié states that much valuable information has come to light in the process of trying to gauge the country's means of meeting its commercial liabilities. Much of that information is necessarily only approximate, but it shows that China is quite able to pay for what she gets. from abroad. The question is, after all, an academic one, for the imports would not go on increasing year by year had China not the means and the power to pay for and absorb them. In this connection, says Mr. Hosié, there is one point that should not be overlooked. A considerable portion of this import trade represents, in the shape of goods, capital coming into the country to assist in its development and is not for the purpose of buying native produce for export. With regard to the opium trade, we referred some days ago to the unlikelihood that China was determined to suppress the trade, in view of the profits accruing from the importation of the drug and the cultivation of the poppy, notwithstanding the Imperial edict issued on the subject. (On the contrary, we expressed the conviction that the edict was a mere rearing thrown across the track of the reformers, inasmuch as it is in the highest degree probable that the Imperial Government intended to foster the local cultivation of the plant at the expense of the foreign grower. In this connection it is interesting to learn Mr. Hosié's views on the subject. He says "that the decrease of foreign opium will continue is undoubted. The production of native opium increases year by year without restriction. Indeed, the Chinese Government find it a most profitable source of income, the revenue derived from its taxation, which in many provinces has been placed on a systematic basis, being set apart for various public purposes. From this source for example the province of Szechuan and the prefecture of Hsi-chou Fu in Kiangsu have to provide an annual contribution of 460,000 taels for carrying out the Whangpu (Huangpu) Conservancy Scheme." It is likely that the Government of China is to find such a contribution at the behest of some advocates of reform? From investigations made with the view of obtaining statistics on the subject it appears that Szechuan alone produces annually over 200,000 piculs or four times the total import of foreign opium into China. If, in their zeal, the opponents of the opium habit expect to find that the poppy has disappeared from China in ten years and with it the revenue derived from this source they must be very simple-minded. As usual, much of the trade of the British Empire with China is attributed to Hongkong. Mr. Hosié notes that "if from the British Empire's total direct trade of \$57,747,591, the whole of the Hongkong trade be deducted, there remains a balance of \$43,223,380, which still places the British Empire nearly \$7,500,000 ahead of the next country on the list—the United States of America, which no doubt has its fair share, like other countries, of the Hongkong trade." Last year Japan was third on the list. The report extends to 120 pages and should attract the attention of all interested in the trade of the Middle Kingdom. Mr. Hosié is especially luminous in his hints to merchants, and perhaps some firms in Hongkong might profit from his suggestions for increasing their commercial connections with the interior.

RUB-TAPE AT THE KOWLOON DOCKS.

(4th December.)

During the course of Sunday, a representative of this paper, accompanied by a well-known and highly-esteemed Chinese gentleman, taking advantage of the glorious weather, proceeded to the Kowloon premises of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., mainly with the idea of seeing, on behalf of this journal, what work had been done upon the French destroyer *Frédéric*. Having arrived at the main gate of the Dock Company's establishment, our representative, as usual, gained admittance into the shipyard, without any difficulty, but when it came to the turn of the Chinese friend who accompanied him to pass, that gentleman found his passage rudely blocked by the Oriental potentate in charge of the gate, who, in curt phraseology, gave him to understand that "Chinese were not admitted into the Dock premises without a pass." This is all very well in its way, but as we understand things, we know that all rules are made to be broken when the necessity for breaking them—from a commonsense point of view—crops up; and that the very strength of a regulation lies in the elasticity of its administration. Any servant of our corporation in Hongkong, even had he been the thickest headed and crassest flunkey in the Colony—could not have mistaken, from the dress and deportment of the Chinese friend who accompanied our representative, that he was of the gentry, and a man of parts and distinction. The fact remains, however, that, for some little time, the automatic Sikh at the gate refused our Chinese friend the right of ingress, and it was only when our representative informed the gatekeeper that the Chinese gentleman was a friend of his, visiting the Docks in company with him, that the latter was allowed eventually to pass in. To show the futility of all this ultra-hysterical red-tapeism as exhibited by the Dock Company, we will endeavour to show, from a little incident related by our Chinese friend to our representative, in discussing later the insulting treatment which had been meted out to him, how seriously the Dock Company's interests might be affected, in leaving the interpretation of their "bye-laws" in the hands of ignorant underlings. The friends and those with

whom the Chinese visitor is connected are among the most influential in Hongkong; they happen to hold shares in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, and have dealings with the greatest Corporations in the Colony, possess vested interests in more than one Steam-boat Company, and it is in connection with the latter that the story was told us. Some time ago the above mentioned Steam-boat Company had occasion to dock one of their vessels, and the contract was given to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock. While the vessel was in dock at Kowloon, the Managing Director decided to go across and inspect her, but judge of his horror and amazement when he was refused, at the gate, permission to enter, and see his own vessel. Is it any wonder that with his dignity, pride, and every sense of justice outraged, this gentleman should go home and register a vow (Directors and shareholders please note) that never again would the Dock Company have the handling of any craft of his company's, and the fact remains, that, owing to the misinterpretation, by some official underling in brief authority, of the Dock Company's regulations, their connection with the above-mentioned Managing Director and his steam-boat Co. abruptly ceased when his vessel came out of dock, and has subsequently never been renewed—and is never likely to be! We can understand the necessity, upon the part of the Dock Company, for keeping a strict control upon the movements of persons entering their premises, otherwise they would undoubtedly lay themselves open to the promiscuous visitations of all sorts and conditions of prowlers and lurchers; but, in the name of common-sense and business hospitality, let them not heedlessly, in driving out the undesirable, exclude also custom and customers. We hardly think it right that the task of discriminating as to who are and who are not fit and proper persons to enter the Dock, should be left in the hands of a Punjabi porter, and we shall be the first to welcome the innovation, what time the management of the Dock Company wake up to a sense of the situation, and decide to place in charge of their gates a person with an ordinary amount of common tact and discretion in his composition, in lieu of the picturesque but commerce-destroying person who now runs the show.

THE CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY.

(5th December.)

In another column we publish a letter from our Canton correspondent which contains news of very great importance as bearing upon the future trade conditions of Hongkong. From this it would appear that as soon as the terms of the proposed agreement for a foreign loan for the Canton-Kowloon Railway were known in Shanghai, the Cantonese living there called a meeting to discuss those terms, the outcome of which discussion being the telegram referred to by our correspondent, which amounts to a strong protest against the proposed foreign loan. The Cantonese urge that means be devised, by subscription or otherwise, for raising the necessary funds among themselves, thus excluding any possible foreign interest in the railway, in order that they may retain it in their own hands, entirely free from foreign influence. The key-note of this protest is undoubtedly the fear of foreign influence. The terms of the agreement referred to, which we published in full on the 24th ult., provided for a loan of \$1,500,000, to bear interest at 5 per cent. per annum, the loan being for a period of fifty years. This loan was arranged for, and it was understood that the agreement had actually been signed. Now comes this telegram from the Cantonese in Shanghai, which their countrymen in Canton are apparently endorsing, which may have the effect of considerably retarding, if not altogether stopping both the ratification of the agreement and the raising of the loan already arranged for abroad. It will be remembered that when H.E. Chow Fu was in Hongkong, en route to Canton, speaking at the reception given to him by his countrymen, when referring to railway matters generally, said that he wished to emphasize the fact that the most perfect harmony must prevail between all merchants and officials, and perfect impartiality obtain, if such projects were to be carried to successful issues, and said that in all such projects his guiding principles had been those of Western countries. Speaking then more particularly of the Canton-Kowloon Railway, H.E. said—"The completion of this line will undoubtedly furnish an impetus to the trade both of Hongkong and of my own country," for which dictum he was applauded to the echo. On the face of it that statement bears the hall-mark of absolute truth, and coming from the lips of one who is enabled to describe himself, as he did on the occasion in question, as "one of the pioneers of railways in China," the statement bore even greater weight, for he knew whereof he spoke. It is, therefore, deplorable that this opposition should have arisen at this juncture, when the wheels of the whole affair were running so smoothly and successfully, and it is to be earnestly hoped that this opposition will not be pushed too far, and that the protest proposed to be forwarded will not be taken seriously in Peking—more especially in view of the fact that no note of protest originated in Canton, the city most affected, until they heard the echo of it from their countrymen abroad. This fact, surely, is significant. Were this protest to be considered seriously at this final stage of the negotiations it could but cause infinite delay, first of all in the ratification of the terms of the proposed agree-

ment, and secondly in the construction of this much-needed line. Another significant fact is that, although it was common knowledge long ago that this loan had been negotiated abroad, it is only now, at the eleventh hour, that any voice is raised in opposition to the raising of the loan. It is, therefore, pertinent to ask why were matters allowed to proceed until they had almost reached the point of final completion before any exception was taken to the negotiations? It cannot be said that those interested in the matter knew nothing of it till now for the proposal to raise the loan was published many months ago, while for some considerable time past the terms of the proposed agreement have been public property. Bearing in mind all these facts, we cannot but ask ourselves if these protesters are sincere in the attitude they are taking up, or have they not some ulterior motive for that attitude, which at present does not appear. However that may be, we can scarcely believe, from what we know and have heard and read of H.E. Chow Fu's enlightened principles, and ideas of administration, that such a protest has its endorsement, for in that case it would be diametrically opposed to the policy he outlined, when in Hongkong, as that by which he would be guided on taking up the reins of office in Canton.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

(6th December.)

That the U.S. Administration is thoroughly aroused over Japan's resentment of the discrimination against its subjects in California and views seriously a situation which threatens the continuance of the cordial good feeling between the two nations, is gathered from a special dispatch to the New York Sun from Washington. It says that Mr. Metcalf's selection as the President's envoy was due in part to the geographical proximity of his residence in Oakland to the seat of the anti-Japanese agitation; but the President wishes mainly to emphasize that his interest in the situation is great enough to justify sending one of his own Cabinet officers to the scene of the agitation. The President also sent directions to the United States District Attorney at San Francisco, through the Department of Justice, to make a full inquiry. After a long conference with the President, Mr. Metcalf's instructions were to confer with the Governor, the acting Mayor of San Francisco, the Japanese Consul, the school authorities and all others who might be able to throw light on the anti-Japanese situation, and to report to the President the exact conditions and the basis of sentiment which served to bring about the discrimination against the Japanese subjects. The dispatch proceeds—"While there is no official authority for saying so, it is supposed that Mr. Metcalf will endeavour to make the anti-Japanese element among those in authority in San Francisco realize the dangers to the commercial interests of the United States in China and elsewhere in the Far East which lies in giving offence to Japan, and also the moral obligation which rests upon the Federal Government and its citizens to respect the treaty rights of the Japanese." In the meantime the Washington Government notified the Government of Japan of the object of Mr. Metcalf's mission and gave assurances of its desire to observe the obligations imposed upon it by the treaty of amity between the two countries. These assurances have been received with much satisfaction by the Government of the Mikado. According to the Sun communication nobody in a position to know President Roosevelt's views on the situation will give any intimation of the policy he would be inclined to pursue should the San Francisco authorities decline to remove their discrimination against Japanese subjects. It is doubtful even that he has defined any policy even in his own mind. A straw that may be taken as an indication of which way the Administration wind blows is found, however, in the knowledge that the President and his advisers, in their consideration of the embarrassing situation, have not been unmindful of the fact that Japan, through the Red Cross, sent more than \$100,000 for the relief of San Francisco's earthquake and fire sufferers. It is expected that Mr. Metcalf will lay emphasis on this proof of Japan's friendliness toward the United States in his dealings with those who have favoured discriminations against the Japanese.

THE GOVERNOR'S ILLNESS.

(7th December.)

Regret and concern will be the ruling sentiments of the people of Hongkong on learning the news, which we publish in another column, that His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan has been constrained on the advice of his medical attendants to apply to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for leave to relinquish the reins of Government in order that he may proceed to Java where he will recruit his health. It was evident from the first that the shock to His Excellency's system as the result of an accident on the polo ground was not so superficial or trivial as the cheerful bulletins issued by the doctors would have led one to believe. At one time the most serious results were feared and it was anticipated that His Excellency would be compelled to proceed home on a lengthened holiday, so that he might have the advantage of expert medical opinion. That was all the more to be regretted for it is many years since the Colony has required the wisdom and guidance of a safe administrator more acutely than it does at the present moment, when so many interests are in the balance. It must be particularly

galling to the Governor that he should be compelled to leave the reins in other hands at this juncture when affairs in connection with the Kowloon-Canton railway are developing and British rights have to be protected and safeguarded at all hazards. The enthusiasm of the Governorship, this scheme is noteworthy and that enthusiasm has infected all concerned, with the natural consequence that the work of constructing the line is progressing at a rapid rate. But there are also other matters closely affecting the future welfare and prosperity of the Colony which demand close attention and the clear brain of an administrator. The fact that the Governor is only proceeding as far as the Netherlands Indies leads us to the hope that it is not treatment, which he needs but the recuperative qualities of the salubrious mountain air of Java. That island has a great name for its healing virtues and we trust that it will live up to its reputation on this occasion; and that His Excellency may return reinvigorated, prepared to deal with some of the knotty problems which are cropping up every day. For instance, questions relating to opium are bound to demand consideration in the immediate future, and from a financial point of view may adversely affect the Colony's budget. The schemes which are being pushed forward in Canton may reflect on the trade of Hongkong, and at all events, require constant attention on the part of the local administration. For these and for other reasons, it is unfortunate that His Excellency the Governor should have to leave the Colony; for none can have the influence which can be brought to bear by the substantive head of the island's affairs. We can only trust that Sir Matthew will be enabled to return as soon as possible and that his compulsory vacation will be of the shortest. The sympathy of the community goes out to him at this time and if good wishes will bring him back "chop, chop," to use a colloquialism, then be can rest assured that he has them in abundance.

BAD MONEY.

Until quite recently, and for a very long time past, residents in and visitors to Hongkong, were harassed and annoyed, and in some instances even embarrassed, by the absolute refusal of rickshas and chair-coolies to accept of cent and half cent pieces when tendered them in payment for their hire. The tenderer could see no fault with the coin, except that it appeared somewhat defaced which is the natural result to be expected in the course of circulation. But have them the coolies wouldn't, and as a consequence, the general public had to refuse them too, in self-protection. Then came the next trouble—the flooding of the market with absolutely spurious coins, made of brass and copper, and with the merest "lick and promise" of a silver plating. The public was warned, in the columns of the local Press, against accepting change without first scrutinizing it. But still the circulation went on, and it is safe to say that the unwary had palmed off on them at least two bad ten or twenty cent pieces they accepted in change, out of every ten. It was the strangers and visitors who were chiefly victimized, for the residents had become accustomed to the necessity for scrutinizing their change very carefully, and were seldom to be caught napping. Then it became very evident that the passers of these coins changed their tactics, and devised a new method of growing rich on their spurious stock. In the day-time it was fairly easy for a careful observer to detect a bad coin, or one so defaced as to be likely to be refused by the first person he might tender it to; if he accepted it. But at night? There was the solution which the coiners and their agents found for the problem. Paying off a chair or a ricksha in a hurry, at the Ferry wharf, the upper level tram terminus, or where not, in the dark, most people were too tired, or in too much of a hurry to get to the end of their journey, to stop to examine their change. Night then, became the coiners' harvest-time. But only for a while, for their operation were discovered—just as murder will out, and then, to the surprise of every one there came a sudden disappearance of the unfeathered coins from circulation in this Colony. While everybody was full of self-gratulation at this improved order of affairs in the local "money market," there was naturally, at the same time, great wonder as to what had become of the unwanted tokens. Where had this "specie" vanished to? It could not have gone to Canton, for the folks there would have none of it. For the same reason Macao could not have been the dumping-ground. No; it had vanished from this Colony—to the Colony's advantage—and its place knew it no more, and then people turned their thoughts to other affairs, and the matter was forgotten. Now comes the explanation of the mysterious though much appreciated disappearance of the debased "coins"—Calcutta, it would appear, has been the unfortunate victim of the coiners' schemes, as would appear from the complaint of a writer in *The Journal of that city*. He says—"It is high time that the attention of the Currency Department was drawn to the extensive circulation of counterfeit, clipped and worn coin in Calcutta. Things have now arrived at such a pitch that the changing of a ten-rupee note anywhere in the town calls for the very closest scrutiny of the money-handled in return; and it is no exaggeration to say that, in nearly every case, such examination will disclose the presence of at least one bad or doubtful rupee in every ten." Of worn and clipped two-anna bits there is also a very large

number in circulation, whilst 10-cent pieces from Ceylon, Hongkong or the Straits, appear with alarming regularity amongst small change, if one is not sharply on the lookout. While we mention the disappearance of the spurious, defaced and doubtful coins from this Colony, we must not be taken as intending to convey that disappearance has been entire and complete, and therefore that all necessity for the rigorous scrutiny of small coins received in change has been removed. Far from it, for on the principle of "in time of peace prepare for war," so must the scrutiny of the coins go on unceasingly, lest, "like a thief in the night," the robber-coiner comes into our midst again with his very undesirable operations and finds us unprepared for him. There is, perhaps, no other Colony or country that labours under such disadvantages as we do here in Hongkong to-day. The Post Office will take no notice but the coin that bears the British Sovereign's head—and not always even that,—the Banks don't want subsidiary coin, the Ferry Company won't have it, while even among those who will take it no more than \$2 of it is accepted as legal tender. Then the problem of change is another source of irritation to the ordinary man in the street. He finds himself weighed down with silver and tries to change a substantial quantity into paper for lighter carriage. What is the result? He must either submit to be mulcted to the extent of 7 per cent, or grin and bear the burden of his coins, which are in the anomalous position of being desired by all yet wanted by none. The problem is a very hard one, and has been frequently written about before, but owing to the peculiar monetary conditions existing between here and South China, it is difficult of solution. In one direction, however, the man in the street can help himself—by maintaining the principle of legal tender and refusing to accept more than \$2 of the subsidiary coin in his change for a note when making small purchases. The payer and payee are on the same plane in that regard, and have equal rights, and if one enforces his own rights in the matter, the other should follow suit, in his own interests.

HONGKONG'S CENSUS.

Any census of the population of Hongkong on any particular date can only give an approximate indication as to whether the resident population of the community is expanding or contracting. The same remark applies, of course, to the census of any large seaport, but above and beyond that there is the additional fact that Hongkong inevitably comprises an unusually large percentage of what may be termed birds of passage. The vicinity of the Colony to the capital of South China and the treaty ports along the coast, with the consequent interchange of commercial visits, accounts in some measure for the shifting character of the population and it is not the census returns very materially. Many Chinese, for example, have residences in two or more places and consider themselves as residents while at each of those places. The illusory character of the census recently taken in Hongkong will thus be apparent at a glance. But it has been suggested on this occasion that the census will prove even less satisfactory than before, for the simple reason that bachelors and others who prefer the freedom of hotel life to the irksome demands frequently insisted on in private houses, have not apparently been included in the enumeration. Whether that is a fact or not it is certain that many have never seen the sight of a census paper, and if the hotel proprietors jotted down particulars regarding their boarders without consulting them the result in many cases must be quaint and interesting. These remarks are induced by the publication in the latest issue of the Government *Gazette* of a preliminary report on the census taken on Tuesday, the 20th November. Taking the non-Chinese population in the first place, it appears that the numbers enumerated in Hongkong have advanced, from 8,431 in 1901 to 10,931 this year, an increase of 2,500 persons. The city of Victoria itself has slightly increased by 876—making the population 7,738. Insignificant figures represent the Peak and Hongkong villages—603 and 395 respectively, but Kowloon is growing by leaps and bounds. Anyone can see at a glance that Kowloon is fast becoming the real residential centre of the Colony, for while there were only 895 persons recorded as having passed the night at that suburb on the occasion of the former census, no less than 2,245 non-Chinese signed the paper last month. In other words, the population was nearly trebled within five years, and it is still advancing and will continue to advance when the railway to Canton becomes an accomplished fact, until Victoria in Hongkong becomes merely a name and a byword. Coming to the Chinese population on land, it is somewhat curious to discover that the total increase under that head during the last five years has merely been 8,750—Victoria alone showing a reduction of 3,372, while there were 71 fewer at the Peak. Again it is made evident that commercial activity at Kowloon and, no doubt, predilection on the part of several, have accounted for the swelling of the native population by 8,845. The total Chinese land population is 448,001, as compared with 433,951 in 1901, a paltry increase, as we have said, of 1,750. Considering that the floating Chinese population has not yet recovered from the effects of the typhoon and that scores were lost in or about the harbour, there is something paradoxical in the statement that last month the returns showed that the natives engaged on Chinese craft had increased in number, as compared with the census taken five years ago, to the extent of 5,495 persons. In the harbour the increase was 4,462; at Aberdeen 386, and at Shaikwan 809; while there was a decrease of 175 at Stanley. The actual figures, for each place being the harbour, 34,991 as against 28,529 in 1901; at Aberdeen 5,677; at Shaikwan 6,248; and at Stanley 706—the total reaching 45,582. Curiously enough, the actual number of boats in the harbour has also increased by 1,010. Everybody knows that after the typhoon the loss of his native craft for the discharge of foreign steamers appreciated in

a remarkable degree. The conclusion therefore is that either the foreign trade of Hongkong has developed by giant strides within the last five years or that the boatmen who escaped the fury of the storm took advantage of the opportunity and became perfect shiplocks for the nonce. The number of boats enumerated this year was 6,846; in 1901 it was 5,836. The sum total of all these figures is that the population of the Colony of Hongkong has increased since 1901 by 16,782 persons. When it is stated that the enumeration between 1891 and 1901 showed an advancement of 64,534—according to the *Directory* figures, or 60,538 according to the official figures for the census of 1901—it will be recognized that the Colony's population is not increasing at so rapid a rate as in the previous decade. It may be, however, that during the ensuing lustre there will be an unwonted increase in proportion to the population, owing to the development works in progress on the island and the mainland. In conclusion, it is only necessary to add that the Colonial Secretary specially notes that the figures given are liable to correction.

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

Whatever contributes to advance the scheme for the adoption of an Ordinance for the Registration of Partnerships in Singapore will naturally appeal to the advocates of a similar proposal in Hongkong. The merchants in the Southern Settlement have dallied with the subject for several years, but the divergence of opinion on the smaller issues has prevented its acceptance by the Government. The shipbuilding of the Straits colony party who oppose the proposed bill on the subject is practically identical to that put forward by the Hongkong members of the Chamber of Commerce. They hold that while an Ordinance for the Registration of Partnerships may be desirable in itself, it would in all probability unduly interfere with the trade of the Colony, hinder and harass the smaller merchants and generally tend to handicap commercial transactions. But when it is pointed out that at present trade in the Orient is already unduly hampered by the numerous fraudulent bankruptcies which come before the Court, by the ease with which a fraudulent debtor may hoodwink the respectable importer of goods, and by the secrecy which hedges round the *personnel* of firms, the case for the advocates of the cause is firmly proved. We have consistently supported those who are in favour of a system of partnership registration, which shall penalize the partnership who are found to be trading under false pretences. For it is not the honest and straightforward dealer who has any reason to fear the disclosure of his partners' names. It is the trader who puts forward a manager, as the chief representative of the firm, and when bankruptcy comes, disappears to more congenial climes and leaves the an of straw to clear himself of any responsibility in the matter. Cases without number could be quoted in which the matter was brought before the Legislative Council in the form of a bill, which was eventually referred to a Select Committee. That Committee's report has now been printed and circulated. The *Singapore Free Press* states that the document, being too long to be quoted in *extenso*, gives a very condensed account of the chief paragraphs. The Committee, it seems, were unanimous upon the point that some limitations should be placed upon the operation of the bill so as to exclude from its scope petty trading firms. Three methods of limiting the operation of the bill to firms with more than a certain amount of capital; secondly, by limiting its operation to certain specified businesses; and thirdly, by placing a firm under a disability to maintain a suit against any person in respect of a debt or contract incurred or entered into by that person while the firm was unregistered, and at the same time limiting this disability to larger businesses by fixing the minimum amount of the debt or contract at a specified sum. The Committee recommended that the bill should be amended in the second part of the method proposed, namely, by excluding the petty trading firms. The synopsis of the report is too condensed to allow of any definite opinion being formed as to the workability of the bill as it is proposed it should be amended, but so long as the supporters of such a measure keep pegging away at it there is hope that they will yet be successful. Then Hongkong, no longer deluged by fears of trade handicaps and relieved from the difficulty of formulating a measure, and having the advantage of watching its operation may follow the example of Singapore.

THE ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Governor-in-Council has, under section 59 of the Tramways Ordinance, 1901 (Ordinance No. 10 of 1901), approved the absolute assignment by the Hongkong Tramway Electric Co., Ltd. (the liquidation) of the whole of their undertaking as defined by the Ordinance to the Electric Traction Company of Hongkong, Limited. It is also notified that the Governor-in-Council has, under section 11 of the same Ordinance, approved of the assignment by way of mortgage by the Electric Traction Company of Hongkong, Limited, of the whole of their undertaking as defined by the Ordinance to the United Exploration Company, Limited, as security for the repayment of certain mortgage debentures of the undertaking.

"Drunk and disorderly, to wit, chasing and upsetting rickshaws in Que's Road at 11.15 p.m. this morning," was the charge entered against William Steward, an unemployed engineer, at the Police Court this morning. Defendant admitted the charge with a nod of the head, and Mr. F. A. Hazeland ordered him to pay \$5,

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

RETROCESSION OF NEWCHWANG.

TERMINATION OF MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 1st December, 1.15 p.m.

Negotiations for the retrocession of Newchwang have been concluded. The Japanese Military Administration of the district terminates to-day.

BOYCOTT REVIVAL.

MASS MEETING AT CANTON.

NEW PROPAGANDA BY BOYCOTT LEADERS.

[From a Correspondent.]

Shamcen, 3rd December, 1.50 p.m.

The members of the Boycott Association assembled in large numbers at the Kwongchai Hospital with the object of discussing what methods should be adopted to secure a revival of interest in the movement, which lately has somewhat languished as the result of questions of more immediate interest attracting the attention of the public.

Mr. Chau Man Ma, who is a resident of Fatsan, and is recognised as one of the boycott leaders, was appointed chairman.

Speeches exhorting the members to stand by their guns, and give all the aid in their power to maintain the boycott against American goods, were delivered.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Association should be held on the 10th inst. for the purpose of electing office-bearers.

A resolution was put to the meeting that industrial establishments should be established, so that the Chinese might become independent of foreign supplies and that Chinese capital might be retained in the country.

Meanwhile the members should exert themselves to the utmost to popularise the boycott scheme, and attract the sympathies of the people.

Funds will be supplied by the Association for grand funeral ceremonies in honour of the boycott "hero" and "martyr" Fung Hui Wai, one of the originators of the movement.

NEWCHWANG RETROCESSION.

JAPAN'S MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

NO APPEALS TO BE ALLOWED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 3rd December, 2.40 p.m.

In connection with the retrocession of Newchwang, the Chinese Imperial Government has agreed to recognise the administrative expenditure incurred by Japan during the military administration of the district.

No appeals will be made from decisions arrived at while Newchwang was under the military jurisdiction of the Japanese.

THE KIANGPEH FAMINE.

WORLD-WIDE APPEALS.

REQUEST TO BE MADE TO THE MANHON HOUSE FUND.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 4th December, 8 p.m.

The inaugural meeting of the Kiangpeh Famine Relief Committee was held yesterday.

It was decided by the meeting to adopt as the title for the fund "The Central China Famine Relief Fund." The meeting also resolved to make appeals throughout all the countries of the world for subscriptions to the fund.

It is intended by the Committee to apply for assistance from the Mansion House Fund.

SIR HAVILLAND SAUSMAREZ.

SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED ON.

FOR APPENDICITIS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 6th December, 2.20 p.m.

Judge Sir Havilland de Saumarez was successfully operated upon yesterday for appendicitis.

His Honour is making favourable progress to-day.

ICE-BOUND NEWCHWANG.

STEAMERS UNABLE TO ENTER PORT.

WILL DISCHARGE AT TAIREN.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 6th December, 9.35 p.m.

The port of Newchwang is closed to steamers; it is ice-bound.

There are a dozen steamers with cargo for Newchwang unable to enter the port owing to the river being frozen.

All these vessels will discharge at Tairen.

KOREAN RIOTERS.

JAPANESE POSTMASTER MURDERED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 7th December, 2.40 p.m.

Information has been received to the effect that a Japanese postmaster in South Korea has been murdered by rioters.

NEWCHWANG.

JAPANESE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION WITHDRAWN.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 7th December, 2.40 p.m.

The withdrawal of the Japanese Military Administration of Newchwang was finally concluded yesterday.

THE STEAM LAUNDRY CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above-mentioned Company was held in the office of Sir Paul Chater at half-past twelve o'clock to-day.

Those present were:—Mr. W. Hutton Potts (chairman), Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. Edward Osborne, Messrs. P. C. Potts, R. A. Harding, J. Orange, and E. J. Chapman (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts have been in your hands some days, so we will, with your permission, take them as read. We regret that you should have had to pay extra postage on same, owing to the stupidity of the clerk who posted them. The delay in presenting the report is owing to the fact that we had no funds available with which to pay the proposed dividend without borrowing from the bank, and after all we are only some twenty days later than last year. We are sorry at not being able to show a better result, but this is accounted for by the fact that for the first three months of the year we were working at a loss, owing to the extra expense incurred while transferring the business to Yau-mai. Also the loss of custom during that period in consequence of the quality of the work falling below our usual standard by the disorganization of the staff, owing to the majority of the old hands refusing to move, which necessitated the training of new. The reduction of the fleet in these waters was also an unexpected blow to our earning powers. We consider we have a valuable asset in the land and building, which are close to where the Canton Railway crosses the high road to Kowloon City. The Company has one through many vicissitudes and trials, but we think we may consider we have overcome the greater bulk of them. We have unfortunately to depend on the native workmen, whose natural tendency is to fold up without remark a damaged or soiled article which brings discredit on the Laundry. We are pleased to say that our earnings up to the present compare favourably with the same period of last year. If any shareholder wishes to put any questions I will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. Harding said he had only one question to ask and that was whether the expenses of removal came under last year's account?

The Chairman replied in the affirmative.

There being no further questions asked.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Harding seconded.—Carried.

On the motion of Sir Paul Chater, seconded by Mr. Chapman, Hon. Mr. Edward Osborne was re-elected a director.

Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin was re-elected the Company's auditor for the ensuing year, on the motion of Mr. Orange, seconded by Mr. P. C. Potts.

The Chairman—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

CHINESE MERCHANTS V. CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES.

6th inst.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, His Honour the Chief Justice presiding, the Yue Chong Shing firm, of No. 121 Wing Lok Street, merchants, sued the China Navigation Company, Limited, a company duly registered and carrying on business in Hongkong for the recovery of the sum of \$5,347.75, being damages for non-delivery of 280 tubs of indigo at Newchwang as agreed upon.

Mr. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavey, of Messrs. Wilkings and Grist, appeared for the plaintiff firm, and Hon. Mr. B. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. G. C. Bailey, of Messrs. Johnston, Stokes and Master, represented the defendant Company.

Mr. Slade said the plaintiff merchants carrying on business at No. 121 Wing Lok Street and the defendants are a company registered and carrying on business as ship-owners in Hongkong. The plaintiffs, on the 30th June 1905, shipped 280 tubs of indigo on board the *Yunnan*, belonging to the defendant company, for carriage to Newchwang, under a bill of lading dated the said 30th June 1905, and signed by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, the agents of the defendant company in Hongkong on that behalf. The said 280 tubs of indigo have not been delivered at Newchwang nor any part thereof. The plaintiffs therefore claim (1) the sum of \$5,347.75 damages for

non-delivery of the said 280 tubs of indigo (2) the costs of this action, and (3) further or other relief.

The defendants admit the first two statements of the claim, but say they are registered in London and not in Hongkong. They also admit the shipping of the 280 tubs of indigo by the *Yunnan*, but say that the said 280 tubs were, with the knowledge and consent of the plaintiffs, shipped as dead cargo at shippers' risk, and during the course of the voyage in question the 280 tubs were, *inter alia*, jettisoned by the mariners, pursuant to the order of the master, in consequence of the extraordinarily bad weather which prevailed and for the safety of the defendants' ship *Yunnan*, and the lives of those on board of her. Amongst the exceptions and conditions contained in the bill of lading under which the said tubs were shipped and carried are the expressions of "loss or damage from jettison," and "from all and every the perils, dangers and accidents of the sea, and navigation of whatsoever nature and kind," and "from any act, neglect or default whatsoever of the master, or mariners or servants of the company in the management or navigation of the vessel." All goods carried on deck are carried so at shippers' risk. The defendants say in the alternative that if, which they deny, the said jettison was improper and unnecessary, or if, which they also deny, it was due to any neglect or default on the part of the master or mariners in the navigation of the ship, they are protected by the above exceptions and conditions from any liability to the plaintiffs. As regards the non-delivery the defendants admit that neither the 280 tubs of indigo nor any part thereof have been delivered at Newchwang, but the defendants submit that under the circumstances, which are set out above, they are wholly exempt from liability for such non-delivery.

In reply to this the plaintiffs say that the indigo was sent off to the steamer *Yunnan*, to be shipped in the ordinary and usual manner. The plaintiffs, on delivering the said goods on board received a mate's receipt, which they in due course exchanged, at the office of the agents, for a bill of lading. They say the said bill of lading was an ordinary below-deck bill of lading, and contains no statement that the indigo is to be carried on deck at shipper's risk.

Hon. Mr. Pollock argued, against this, that the bill of lading was not an ordinary bill of lading as it was made out and a note entered in the margin that it was subject to the conditions of the mate's receipt, and on that mate's receipt is entered the condition, "on deck at shipper's risk," and therefore the bill of lading was subject to that condition, and was not an ordinary below-deck document. The condition on the mate's receipt had to be taken as incorporated with the bill of lading just the same as if that condition had been actually entered in the bill of lading in place of the words "subject to the mate's receipt," and therefore it was not an ordinary bill of lading and the defendants were exempt from all liability.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED MURDER.

EVIDENCE IN HARBOUR OFFICE CASE TAKEN.

3rd inst.

Chu Lo Pui, a farmer, residing in a boarding-house in Sutherland Street, West Point, was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Magistrate's to-day, on two serious charges. One the first count it is alleged he attempted to murder Mr. A. C. Botelho, first clerk of the Harbour Department, and on the second indictment he is said to have caused grievous bodily harm to two boatmen, Chung Fuk and Kwok Chuen, on the 26th ult.

Chief Detective Inspector Harrison and Detective Sergeant Watt conducted the case for the police, the prisoner denying the charges in toto.

Dr. Koch, assistant superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, spoke as to the condition and the wounds the native boatmen were suffering from when he examined them in hospital.

Mr. A. C. Botelho, first clerk, Harbourmaster's department, was next called to the stand. Witness declared that he had been in that department close on thirty-four years, and it was part of his duty to examine intending Chinese emigrants to foreign ports for voyages of over seven days duration. On the morning in question, witness went on, he started to examine a batch of emigrants for the Straits Settlements to proceed by the British steamer *Hopalong*. At about ten o'clock witness started to examine the prisoner who was among the batch of emigrants. He had to stand on a box to answer questions put to him. (Plan of the place put in.) Witness then gave the Court the positions as to where he and the others sat. After the examination, he went on, accused stepped down from the box to receive his passage ticket, which was being stamped by Kwok Chuen. Instead of that prisoner rushed at witness and clutched him by the throat with his left hand, at the same time muttering words which witness did not understand. Witness threw him off and accused fell. Kwok Chuen was then about to seize him, but failed, defendant leaving through the eastern door. Witness followed accused into the yard, but when he saw others chasing the fugitive witness stopped. Soon after Kwok Chuen went to witness and raising his jacket, showed that he was wounded. The other boatman followed him soon after with a wound on his breast. Witness did not know where any body had been wounded until he saw the boatmen. The men were then dispatched to hospital.

"Can you suggest any motive or reason for the stabbing?" asked His Worship.

"I cannot," replied the witness.

Other witnesses were called, and the case adjourned.

The Harbour Office attempted murder and stabbing case, which was adjourned after we had gone to press on Tuesday, was continued and concluded at the Police Court, on Wednesday.

The accused made a lengthy statement in which he denied everything that was said by witnesses for the prosecution. Mr. F. A. Hazeland then committed him to stand his trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

FATAL GAMBLING RAID.

LIFT "BOY" DROPS INTO THE STREET.

Another of those gambling raids which now and again ends fatally to one of the gamblers was executed on the servant's quarters of Queen's Buildings shortly before eight o'clock last evening, during which a life "boy" lost his life. Detective Sergeant O'Sullivan receiving information to the effect that gambling was being carried on by office and lift "boys" in the nearby offices, he got together a party of *luhungs* and raided the servant's quarters. Immediately the officers set feet in the servant's quarters there was a stampede. The lights were informed, were extinguished, and there was a rush to escape. The officers laid seven of the gamblers by the heels, although many escaped. A lift "boy" in trying to get away made a dash for window and fell into the street a distance of about eighteen feet. Whether he jumped or fell over accidentally is not known. He landed

on his head, however, and as soon as the occurrence was known he was promptly dispatched to hospital, but he died two hours later from fractured skull. The seven prisoners were removed to the Central Police Station, where they were held, some being released on bail. This morning, they were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court. One of the lift "boys" was charged "with keeping a common gambling house," and the others with gambling on the premises. Evidence was led. The Court found all the defendants guilty of gambling and fined them \$5 each.

A "ROUGH HOUSE."

JAPANESE SEAMEN ON A SPREE.

Three Japanese seamen, one steward on board the *s.s. Chinkai Maru*, and the others firemen on board the *Yunawa Maru*, took charge of a house at Wan-chai last night and literally speaking, made things hum so hard that P.C. Sutherland had to call "Stop!" They did not, and the trio were run in. The three Japs had a dispute with the lady of the house and they were asked to leave. Instead of going they drew knives and brandished them over the woman's head. She ran into another room and closed the door behind her. The Japs followed her, but were not in time to enter the room, so they remained outside and contented themselves with driving their knives into the door. At this stage the police intervened and arrested the Japs, first taking the precaution of relieving them of their weapons. The woman, who was in a terrible fright, followed them to New Police Station, where she charged the steward with assault and the other two with being noisy and disorderly in her house. They were arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, and fined \$5 each.

TWO BOYS AND A RING.

An apprentice named Li Pui, twelve years old, employed in a blacksmith's shop at No. 5, Stanley Street, was sent out by his master on the 6th inst. to change a \$5 bill into silver. The apprentice ran all the way down to a money-changer's shop near the Central Market and got \$5.31 in silver for his \$5 bill. On leaving the money-changer's establishment he met Ho Chun, another twelve-year-old lad. "Do you see this?" asked Ho of the apprentice, jingling something in both hands. "What's the trick now?" inquired the apprentice, while holding the roll of silver in his hand. "No trick," replied Ho. "Some business which, if you take part, you will not be sorry for."

The apprentice said he was in that tight away, and asked to be shown what Ho had in his hand.

"Do you see this?" asked Ho again, showing the apprentice a ring which looked like gold. "Now, you go and pawn it for \$10 and you'll get half when you return. You need not be afraid of anything," went on Ho when the apprentice said something about stolen property, "my mother gave it me."

The apprentice took the ring and examined it and tested it with his teeth to find out if it was gold.

"Give me the roll of money you have in your hand in-hold until you come back." The foolish apprentice handed over the \$5.31 and disappeared into the nearest pawnshop. He came out a few minutes later, looking sick indeed, but Ho went to the Central Police Station and told his story to the inspector on duty, who on inspecting the ring, found it to be copper.

A *luhung* was sent out with him to hunt for the trickster, but nothing happened. The next day's search also proved fruitless. Yesterday afternoon, however, the apprentice pointed out Ho in a crowd and he was arrested. At the station he was searched and four similar rings were found in his pocket.

Inspector Ritchie placed him before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, this forenoon, on a charge of obtaining money by means of a trick. He was found guilty and the Court ordered the young rascal to receive twelve strokes with the birch and to be detained in gaol for forty-eight hours.

THE INDIAN SOLDIERS.

TROUBLE MAY BE A ICABLY SETTLED.

The summons of Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, against Muddi Khan and Allai Khan, both belonging to H. Company, 129th Baluchis, and the cross-summons against Mr. Goldring and Mr. F. C. Barlow for assault, which was soffer hearing to-day, by Mr. F. A. Hazeland, did not come up for trial as was at first anticipated, for Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley (Crown Solicitors), who appeared for Messrs. Goldring and Barlow, applied for a further postponement, giving as a reason that the case in all probability might be settled out of Court. This trouble which has created considerable interest among the European community here occurred on the morning of the 25th October. Messrs. Goldring and Barlow, who reside at "Parkside," Kowloon, had been put to great inconvenience by strangers trespassing on their private property, notwithstanding that a notice enclosing the property, on that morning, it will be remembered, Mr. Goldring saw two Indian soldiers, one of whom was carrying a gun, trespassing in his garden. Mr. Goldring approached the soldiers, asked them their business, and on getting no reply, they were told to "get out." One of the soldiers, so it was alleged, turned on Mr. Goldring and struck him on the mouth with his fist, while the other soldier made an attempt to bring the butt end of his gun in contact with the gentleman's head, but the blow was warded off in time by Mr. Goldring raising his arm about his head. The blow struck his forehead, forehead, and caused him some pain for several days after. The assault was said to have been witnessed by two rich-cha coolies, who were waiting to drive the two gentlemen to the ferry wharf. It was rumoured about the Magistrate's this morning that Col. Price, of the Indian regiment, had intimated that he would like to see Mr. Goldring on the matter, and it was on that account that the case was adjourned to-day. Mr. Goldring, we understand, was refused an apology from the regiment, so what settlement can be arrived at now with the Colonel is not known, unless it has been decided to apologise.

The authorities of the Japanese Education Department are investigating a representation addressed by the Romaji Kai for the adoption of Roman letters in writing and printing the Japanese language. We learn from veracious contemporaries that the Japanese Education Department to Romaji Kai is growing in popularity. Mr. Watanabe, head of the Book, Chart and Atlas Office, are among the warm advocates of the adoption of Roman characters, but many are opposed to the innovation on sentimental grounds, desiring the preservation of the national characteristics of Japan. It is believed that the question will be submitted to the Language Reform Committee for their decision.—*Japan Chronicle*.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY.

The following Bulletin was issued by the Governor yesterday:—His Excellency the Governor has made marked progress during the past week. It is probable that all being well, His Excellency will leave the Colony in about two weeks' time, for a month's change.

BRUTAL ASSAULT.

EUROPEAN WANTED BY THE POLICE.

A European resident, a description of whom the police in the Central district think they have, is being sought after by them on a charge of assault. He was alleged to have seriously assaulted an aged Chinaman who is under treatment in the Government Civil Hospital for an injury he received. The story that was told to the police was to the effect that the European in question was in a rickshaw driving along Connaught Road Central, near Pender Street, yesterday. The aged coolie, who was carrying a load, attempted to pass in front of the rickshaw, but collided with the coolie. The European, it is alleged, picked up his stick and lashed out at the old man, hitting him over the left eye, causing a gash one and a half inches long. The old man collapsed, but the European continued on his journey. The coolie was found by the police and sent to hospital. A balance. "It was a most cowardly assault," said an inspector. "If the stick had struck the coolie an inch lower down, the man's eye would have been knocked out."

MOTION FOR REHEARING.

A STATE DOCUMENT IN COURT.

HEATED DISCUSSION.

Before the Full Bench, consisting of their Honours Sir Francis P. Goff, Chief Justice, and Mr. A. C. Wise, Puisne Judge, Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. E. Gardner, of O. D. Thomson's office, applied on behalf of the defendant in the case of Hajji Ali Shah versus Mustafa Ismail, which was tried before Hon. Mr. H. J. Gompertz, the defendant being found guilty and committed to prison, for a rehearing of that case. Sir Henry Berkeley, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, of Messrs. Denys and Bowley, Crown Solicitors, represented the Crown.

His Honour the Chief Justice said the title was somewhat confusing, as the form at home was 'Re' v the defendant, and the reverse in appeals.

Mr. Slade said that was so, and he thought the title wrong, but the records of the Court showed that that had been the form used in this Court.

The Chief Justice said he thought the form used at home was the proper one and should in future be the one used here.

Mr. Slade said that this was a motion for a rehearing of this case. The motion would not take long at all, but the Crown had consented to have the case heard before the Full Bench.

Sir Henry Berkeley: That so, my Lords. The Chief Justice: Do you want a rehearing?

Sir Henry: If they can show good and sufficient reason for it, my Lords.

The Puisne Judge: I am not prepared to hear those reasons to-day. I understood that this was purely a formal motion, and that it would take only a few minutes, so I have adjourned for a short time from the other Court.

Mr. Slade: I understood so, my Lords; I thought the consent of the Crown was sufficient, but if I have to argue reasons it will take some time. I will first read a letter I have here.

Sir Henry: I object to that letter being read here. My learned friend purports to read before this Court a confidential letter from His Excellency the Governor to the Officer Commanding, which is marked "Confidential". It is a State document and cannot be read; it is also a confidential document from one Government Official to another, and the contents cannot be put before this Court. I am surprised that my learned friend should propose to read such a document to your Lordships.

The Chief Justice: I do not see how you can read it unless you have the consent of the writer and recipient. Confidential letters must be treated as such.

Mr. Slade: I have the consent of one party, my Lord.

The Puisne Judge: You cannot argue upon the contents of such a letter.

Sir Henry: The point to consider is whether the evidence of the prisoner be taken at this hearing as it was taken before the magistrate.

The Crown consents to this though we do not know what that evidence consists of. The Crown does not wish to create any feeling among the soldiers or others that the prisoner has not been fairly dealt with.

Mr. Slade: I want to have a rehearing. I want to put it clearly that the Crown does object to a rehearing. The Crown wants the Court to assume that if the evidence had been taken before the magistrate at the hearing of the case, the magistrate would at it have convicted.

Sir Henry: Then I do not wish to withdraw my consent. If they appeal to your Lordships, I will come to Court; we come to your Lordships. If my learned friend asserts that the magistrate convicted wrongly, that is a question of law. The prisoner must be confined within the four corners of the depositions and no extraneous matter can be introduced. We must stop my learned friend from bringing correspondence calculated to lead to a breach of confidence between the Military and Civil Governments.

Mr. Slade (heatedly): To refuse now to consent to a rehearing is a disgraceful breach of faith on the part of the Government.

Sir Henry: If my learned friend wishes to call in question the conduct of the magistrate in dealing with the case, he should not come before this Court.

Mr. Slade: I do not wish to call in question the conduct of the magistrate; I wish merely to have a rehearing of that case.

The Chief Justice: You would contend that in those letters there would be found a consent, but we must consider whether we can consider the matter on those terms.

Mr. Slade: I have the consent of one party.

The Puisne Judge: That's not enough; we cannot hear the letters without both parties consenting.

The Chief Justice: I think it would be better to have the correspondence sent to us in Chambers, and we can consider the matter there. My learned friend agrees with me that, even assuming that the Crown consented, that would not bind this Court.

The Puisne Judge: Even if there was a consent I should not grant a rehearing unless good grounds were shown for it. The Crown now comes to oppose a rehearing.

Mr. Slade: That is a thorn in fact, my Lords. The Crown is now opposing a rehearing.

Sir Henry: I consider that the Court cannot grant a rehearing now that the Crown withdraws its consent.

After a brief consultation between the learned Judges, the Chief Justice said that they would consider that point in Chambers after seeing the correspondence which was sent to them there, and adjourned the further hearing of this motion until the 11th inst.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL.

A BRILLIANT FUNCTION.

The 30th November is for all Scotchmen a great day, but particularly is it a great day for those Scots who have left the bonnie "Land of Cakes" to sojourn in the East, even from Bombay to Yokohama.

In Scotland the New Year is the day of the three hundred and sixty-five which is most observed, but in India and the farther East, St. Andrew's day has, for some unwritten reason, perhaps from long custom, come to be recognized as the day of all others, upon which Scots may meet their brethren, and when all social distinctions are cast aside, and differences buried, and when all the clans become as one great and undivided clan to celebrate the feast of their Patron Saint, an entertain the Scotch friends in a way that only the hospitable warm-hearted Scot knows how to do.

Other societies there are that entertain or not as the fit sees them, in a languid "al fresco" "kiddie-help-yourself-to-whisky" sort of style, but for sheer downright entertainment give, give us the Scot. Having arranged his finances, he literally deluges the whole of the respectable world with cards, and when the willing guest has once entered his hospitable portals, he is pounced upon, and for one night at least, becomes the property of pious St. Andrew and his merry Scotchmen. One is the veritable "Aunt Sally" of their hospitality. Each Scot vies with his fellow to bowl their guest over with meat, drink and excitement; and if he rises, the next morning, the victim of a bad head, he is thoroughly prepared to go to the same thing again on the 4th—should occasion offer.

We have never met a more looking St. Andrew's guest on the 4th of November, who did not look anxiously forward to tasting Scotch hospitality—and other things—a year later.

Last night's Ball was in no respect less successful than its brilliant predecessors.

From the time one arrived outside the ball-rooms, where Chief Hough and his ushers received their guests, till the last ricksha creaked to the door, the weary way homeward, which, by the way, was somewhere in the neighbourhood of 7 a.m. to-day—not a dull moment was spent.

Many of the ladies' dresses were beautiful, but as we do not possess a "Madge" upon our staff, we regret that we are unable to describe them.

The ball-rooms, however, what with the colours of the ball-gowns, the gold-laced uniforms of Army and Naval officers, and the kilts of many of the Scotchmen, gave the appearance of a human kaleidoscope. Though the number of dancers present, we noticed no undue crowding, couples who had finished half their waltz, unselfishly sitting out the other half in order to let their less fortunate fellows take a turn.

At precisely 11 o'clock a movement was made in the direction of the theatre, where supper was to be served in two relays.

Piper Robertson headed the procession, with his pipes in full blast, and followed by Chief Hough with Lady Piggott upon his arm. Then came the guests of honour who were to sit, as pre-arranged, at the President's table; and then the hosts and guests of the first relay.

In the upper room the scene was a brilliant one, and one could hardly hear oneself talk for the sounds of the knives and forks; and the general laughter and jollity called forth by the spontaneous happiness of the occasion.

The splendor of mutton and the turkey were dreams of fitness and tenderness, and only a "Chef" like him of the King Edward could have turned out in Hongkong such a "foie-gras on a spike" but when Piper Robertson played in that "Crown" Chieftain of the "Puddin' Race," the Haggin, bonnie round the room, on the shoulder, of two-braw-kilted laddies, the enthusiasm reached its height.

Everybody being helped to a portion of the "Puddin'," the customary dram of whisky was served round to wash it down; and after a short interval Chief Hough, rising, asked for silence, and addressed those present as follows:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to kindly hear me for a few minutes while I briefly preface the important toast it is the wish of the Members of this Society. I should propose, he high and exalted position of my fellow-countrymen have placed me in to-night recalls my early service days, years ago, when I was present at a similar although much smaller gathering, presided over by the then commanding officer of that gallant Cavalry Regiment so dear to every Scot's heart, the "Greys," and at which a toast to the Regiment was proposed, when it was mentioned that although the Regiment was numerically designated the Second Dragoons, they proudly bore emblazoned on their Colours the Motto "Second to None." It is world's history how they have borne themselves up to their motto. Ladies and Gentlemen, succeeding generations of Scotsmen, located in Hongkong have long adopted that motto and have always claimed and still claim that they are second to none in loyal allegiance to our well-beloved Ruler, Scotsmen, I ask you and our guests here to-night to support me in maintaining that high ideal of loyalty by drinking a bumper in honour of the toast I have risen to propose, which is,—The Duke of Rothesay, the Lord of the Isles, and Grand Steward of Scotland, the First and greatest of Scotland's Chiefs, may long life and the best of health be vouchsafed to him and may he be long spared to guide our destinies. Brother Scots, Ladies and Gentlemen, His most Excellent Majesty the King!

This eloquent and powerful speech of the President's called forth a burst of patriotic enthusiasm, such as we have seldom witnessed in our history, Scots, Englishmen, Irishmen, Colonials and Foreigners alike, seemed to be taken with a fit of frenzied patriotism and it was some moments before the assembly could be brought to order again.

The toast "To the memory of pious St. Andrew" was then drunk, as is usual on these occasions, in silence, and this done, the Chairman again rose and said:—Scotsmen, to-day it has been my duty as your Chosen Chief to send and receive on your behalf whatever messages of fraternal goodwill may have been transmitted between our Scottish friends, near and far, and this Society, communications received being usually read 'out at this banquet. I cannot proceed with that part of my duties without expressing a deep regret of every member and guest also, at the absence from our gathering of His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan. We one and all deeply regret the accident His Excellency met with; we deplore the fact that it should have laid him low, and express the earnest hope that he may be soon restored to his usual health when we shall again have him taking the kindly interest he has always done in our fortunes and misfortunes alike. I am sure it would be against His Excellency's wish were I to dwell upon this subject, but I will take care later on that he is informed of the many feelings of profound sympathy that I have heard given expression to to-night. I now proceed to read out the telegrams received. Local applause again greeted the President, who proceeded to read the telegrams which had been exchanged with St. Andrew's Societies

in other parts, and an adjournment was then made back to the ball-room, where the strains of the excellent Band of the 3rd Middlesex, dancing was vigorously continued till the wee small hours of the morning.

With the sole exception that, perhaps owing to the hard times we are going through, one did not notice so many beautiful ball-gowns, among the ladies, as in former years, the ball was a most unqualified success, and Hongkong Society remains the debtor to St. Andrew and his devoted disciples for another charmingly hospitable night.

CLAIMANTS WANTED.

OVERCOATS FOUND BY THE POLICE.

While Police-constable 74 Cooper was on duty in Queen's Road West, near the International Hotel, at about six o'clock this morning, he saw a coolie making in the direction of Tai-ping-shan with a bundle of clothing under his arm.

"Here," said the constable, approaching the coolie, "stop!"

But the coolie started to run. The officer gave chase and captured the man before he disappeared into a side lane.

"What have you got there?" he asked, pointing to the bundle.

"Nothing," replied the coolie, calmly.

He was asked to open the bundle, which he did, revealing two brand new overcoats of a dark texture and a pair of American brown boots.

"I see," the policeman remarked, "you have just returned from St. Andrew's Ball?"

The coolie said he had not been within 100 yards of the City Hall.

"Then come with me to the Central Station," put in the constable, invitingly.

On arrival the coolie declared that he picked the bundle up on the "Shun Lee" wharf. Inspector Smith examined the overcoats and found a mark on one, which was as follows:—

"J. G. Eber—Hamburg." The coolie, who had a previous conviction, he being found on the roof of Queen's Building at three o'clock in the morning, was taken to the Police Station, where he was placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, this morning, on a charge of unlawful possession.

The defendant informed the court that he wanted to go and call somebody who could speak on his behalf. Lukong 299 was despatched with him. When the coolie got on the Praya, near the "Shun Lee" wharf, he seized the looking by the queue and jumping into the harbour pulled the looking in with him. The policeman struggled with the man in the water and after a time succeeded in getting him ashore, with the overcoats in a terrible condition. He was returned to the Magistrate's office and the case was remanded, his Worship giving the police instructions to see the secretary of the St. Andrew's Society with a view to getting claimants for the goods found in defendant's possession.

Three Germans, Messrs. E. Vollbrecht, W. Otto, and Adolph Thiesen, appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Monday, at the Magistrate's court, to claim the two overcoats and the pair of American brown boots that J. C. Cooper found in possession of the coolie on Saturday morning. It will be remembered that it was at first thought that the clothing was removed from the cloak room of the City Hall on the night of St. Andrew's Ball. This proved to be incorrect. The claimants, who resided at No. 33 Queen's Gardens, identified the property as their own and informed the Court that the back door of their house was broken into on Saturday morning and the property lost. The defendant was sent to goal for six weeks and six shillings, and to be deported. The clothing, etc., was returned to the owners.

ALLEGED OPIUM DUMPING.

THE BITTER BUT.

Yesterday afternoon the excise-officers of the Opium Farmer, by virtue of a warrant, raided a certain house in Des Voeux Road Central, where they had learned illicit opium was secreted, and having searched the house from top to bottom, without result, they asked the man who had accompanied them over the house for the master of the establishment in question.

The worthy kildie replied that he would go and find the house-holder, but after a few minutes of absence, returned, saying that he regretted to inform the excise-officers that his master had been called away upon important business.

The officers then proceeded back to the Central Police Station, where they arrived just in the nick of time, to overhear a glib-tongued Chinaman reporting to the inspector on duty that some evil-disposed person or persons had, with the householder's consent, deposited opium in a house in Des Voeux Central, and the number of the house he mentioned coincided exactly with the house they had just visited and left empty-handed.

The informer was thereupon invited by the police to tarry with them awhile, and so give himself an opportunity of thinking matters over and deciding if he had not made some slight error in conveying his original information to the inspector.

Upon further mature reflection, this man decided that he would prefer to amend his original statement, and ultimately made a confession to the effect that the gentleman who had at first so kindly received the visiting excise-officers, and acted as guide, philosopher and friend to them, and who had subsequently been eagerly sought for, and been unable to find, the master of the suspected house, was none other than the worthy house-holder himself.

From the history which was then unrolled by the informer, it appeared that, when the bland householder volunteered to go and look for himself, he had the illicit opium concealed about his person, and when he went downstairs, gave the opium to a friend, asking him to oblige him by going to the Police Station, and notifying the gullible officers there that illicit opium had been dumped by some evil-disposed person or persons in his house, in the telling which tarried the unfortunate friend was enmeshed and bagged.

Having got all the necessary information out of this innocent, the police released him with a warning not to do his friends' dirty work again, and immediately thereafter, the householder and another, who were arrested during the long watches of the night, were introduced this morning to Mr. O. D. Thomson, when that gentleman cordially invited them to contribute to the revenue of the Colony the sums of \$40 and \$2 respectively.

FIVE shop coolies who were drawing a loaded truck along Queen's Road East on Monday afternoon were gathered into No. 2 Police Station before they had proceeded far, and charged with transporting dangerous goods, to wit, kerosene oil, from Wanchai to West Point, without having each in properly labelled, the coolies were removing the oil from No. 151, Praya East to No. 40, Queen's Road West. They surrendered to their bail at the Police Court on Tuesday, and on being placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland each coolie was fined \$10 and warned. Inspector Goulley prosecuted.

SAD DEATH OF MR. A. W. SLATON.

DROWNED AT SEA.

During the week considerable talk has been occasioned in hotel circles in Hongkong, by what appeared to have been the mysterious disappearance of Mr. A. W. Slaton, manager of the New Connaught House Hotel. This gentleman was missing to his acquaintances from the 26th ultimo, and the fact that a new manager was installed at the Connaught House upon the day following, gave rise to all kinds of vague rumours.

From facts which have come to light, however, since the arrival of Messrs. Marry & Co's steamer *Hanoi* it appears that Mr. Slaton made his appearance aboard that vessel, about noon, on the 26th ultimo, and, it being near 11 p.m., was invited to stay to lunch. Tiffin finished, and the vessel being about to sail, Mr. Slaton seems to have very suddenly made up his mind to accompany her, and insisted upon being carried as a passenger to Haiphong.

To this Captain Merlees at first demurred, but was overruled by Mr. Slaton, who produced a large roll of bank notes, and gave the Captain to understand that, although he had no baggage, he had plenty of money to pay for his passage, and to provide himself with a temporary outfit at Haiphong, sufficient for the return passage. Captain Merlees thereupon agreed to accept him as passenger. The *Hanoi* left her moorings at 3.15 p.m. on the 26th, and the last that Captain Merlees and—with one exception—his passengers saw of Mr. Slaton, was when after tiffin, he was stretched out in a lounge chair taking a siesta. At 6.25 p.m. Captain Merlees being then upon the bridge, and the promenade deck practically deserted, the alarm of "man overboard" was given by Mr. Galimberti, an Italian passenger, who had witnessed Mr. Slaton rise from the deck-chair in which he had been sleeping, and catch hold of two stanchions, apparently in the endeavour to haul himself up on to the railing of the ship.

Mr. Galimberti states that as he was going forward to warn Mr. Slaton of the danger of swimming, the ship gave a heavy roll, and Mr. Slaton, losing his hold and balance, was pitched into the sea.

Mr. Galimberti then gave the alarm to the bridge and Captain Merlees at once ordered the ship stopped, and full speed astern. At the same moment a life-buoy with carbure light attached was dropped from the stern, and a boat was swung out and lowered, and sent away in charge of the second officer.

The *Hanoi* was backed full speed along her own wake, until the life-buoy, with its light burning, was left well ahead, and in the meantime the boat continued to search in all directions for the unfortunate man.

It would appear as if, after the fall, Mr. Slaton had come twice to the surface, as two distinct cries for help were heard by those on board. The inference therefore is that being unable to swim, Mr. Slaton sank after the second appeal for help.

The second officer, after a fruitless search of 40 minutes for the missing man, returned to the *Hanoi*, and the Commander, reluctantly, gave the order to go ahead again.

Exactly what was the cause of the accident will never become apparent. Theories of suicide have been put forward, but though it is evident that Mr. Slaton's affairs had been of late, in rather an embarrassed condition, while he had some short time previously passed a period in the Civil Hospital in order to undergo treatment for some mental derangement; such theories would seem to be upset by the impression made by the occurrence upon the sole eye-witness, as being purely accidental, and the subsequent two appeals for help made by the drowning man.

We have the satisfaction of knowing, however, that everything possible was done by Captain Merlees and his officers towards rescuing the unfortunate man.

By courtesy of the U.S. Consul-General, we are able to glean a few particulars of Mr. Slaton's connections.

Born in the State of Georgia, he was 32 years of age at the time of his death. He went out to Manila as a private soldier in Company A of the 5th U.S. Infantry, in which he served for three years, rising to Sergeant's rank, and subsequently receiving an honourable discharge.

Later, he was employed as clerk on board the U.S. N. Auxiliary "Alexander," and, leaving that vessel in Hongkong became manager of the New Connought House in March this year.

The following is the official report of the fatality filed by Captain Merlees at the U.S. Consulate-General:—

S.S. *Hanoi* at Sea,

26th November, 1906,

Monday.

At 6.25 p.m. on the 26th inst., while abreast the Great Ladrone Isle, a passenger, Mr. G. Galimberti, shouted that another passenger had fallen overboard. The engines were at once stopped and put astern, a life-buoy with light attached thrown overboard, and a boat lowered with second officer in charge; a ter sea-ching round from 6.25 to 6.50 p.m. no trace of him could be found. Restarted engines and proceeded on course. It appears from Mr. Galimberti, who was an eye-witness, that Mr. Slaton was trying to seat himself on the side of the ship, which was rolling heavily at the time, and over-balanced himself.

(Sd.) P. MERLEES (Master)
K. M. KILGUSEN (Mate)
C. ZIEGLER (Passenger)
A. M. TONNETTI
G. GALIMBERTI
W. R. MYERS

NEW VICEROY FOR CHILILI.

H. E. YUAN SHI-KAI PROMOTED.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 2nd December.

Shi Kai, Viceroy of Chihli, is about to be promoted and given a ministerial portfolio, in recognition of his past good services. It is understood that he will be succeeded at Chihli by H. E. Tong Shun Yee, a native of Kwangtung province, and High Commissioner of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

NEW TAX FOR SWATOW.

MERCHANTS' PROTEST.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd December.

It has been announced in Swatow that a new tax is about to be imposed at that port, similar to the late *tsin* tax, which was so strongly objected to by the mercantile community of China. On learning this one of the heads of the other mercantile firms and Hong, and foreign consuls, requesting them to attend a meeting to consider the advisability of signing a joint memorial to the respective foreign Ministers in Peking, requesting them to enter a strong protest against the imposition of this new proposed tax. The meeting was held and the request forwarded.

HONGKONG TYPHOON RELIEF FUND.

MR. H. HUNTER, THE HON. TREASURER, ACKNOWLEDGES WITH THANKS THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTIONS:—

Already acknowledged.....	\$264,452.59
International Banking Corporation.....	1,000
Proceeds of Concert given by the Portuguese Community at the Club Lusitano.....	597.24
Leon A. Levy, Alexandria.....	250.68
Subscribed by the members of the Sikh Temple Happy Valley.....	100
Mr. Edmund Sharp & Co.....	86.68
Mrs. Marie Noyes-Morehouse.....	50
Received from Hon. Mr. F. H. Baddeley, Police at Ping Shan.....	10
Ping Shan villagers.....	34.90
A. J. Mackie.....	10
Lance Sergeant Willis.....	5
Native Police at Au Tau.....	6.90
Villagers of Sai Pin Wai.....	3.40
" Tai Kiu.....	3
" Wong Chau.....	1.50
" Un Long.....	49.90
" Tung Tau.....	12.95
" Kam Tin.....	23.60
" Ying Lung.....	10
" Nam Pin Wai.....	10.50
" Tai Shan.....	25
" Un Kong.....	4
" Lin Fa Ti.....	11.80
" Wong Uk Tsun.....	4.15
" San Tsau.....	1.22
" Ma On Kong.....	7.80
" Tai Tong.....	2.20
" Yau Tin.....	2
" Tai Cheung Po.....	2.64
" San Poi.....	3.25
" Sheung Tsau.....	10.25

Chinese subsidiary coins.....\$29.06

The following amounts received from the Tung Wah Hospital.....240.93

Chinese Merchants in Kobe, additional subscription.....1,113.20

" Townsville.....870.75

" Yokohama, additional subs.....705.72

" Kampar, additional subs.....364.01

" Bangkok.....258

Wing Hing Chao.....100

Unknown.....100

Tong Vichai.....100

Yim Loong Chan.....100

Him Lee Company.....50

Lo Chap Luk.....50

Anonymous.....50

On Shipping Co.....25

Leung Tin Kwai.....25

Yung Hin Man.....25

Yung Yick Lau.....25

Mis. Wai Leung Shi.....20

Chang Fung Shan.....20

Pow Kai Sun.....20

Anonymous.....20

Chang Pi Shu.....15

Wong Kwai Choi.....10

Ny Ki Shi.....10

Kwong Koi Woo.....10

Ho Yam Nam.....10

Kwok Ching Tong.....10

Chinese Merchants in Brisbane, additional subscriptions.....5.66

Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok.....1,000

Ang Tak Tong.....50

Chinese Merchants in Kwangsi.....27.20

Company should be in a position to save 25 per cent. on the management expenses and fully 75 per cent. on up-to-date appliances for handling cargo. Assuming, therefore, that this New Company only saves one-half of the Public Wharf Company's earnings of 1905, above referred to, viz. Tls. 400,000, it is estimated that 50 per cent. (or 200,000 taels) would be at the directors' disposal for distribution. It is also estimated that as the Company's property will be concentrated on two spots and not scattered in different parts of the river a saving will be effected in wages for superintendence.

During the last 10 years the import trade of Shanghai has more than doubled as shown by statistics published by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and there is no reason to suppose that this rate of progress will not be maintained. On this expansion of trade as well as on the foregoing facts the committee base their opinion that the scheme, if carried out, will be a success.

Debentures.—The time since the last meeting has been too short to definitely arrange this matter, but negotiations are proceeding and the committee hope for a satisfactory result.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. MARSHALL,
L. BRIDOU,
C. R. BURKILL,
HARRY DE GRAY,
W. H. BARHAM.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—In the report of my remarks made at the meeting of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd., yesterday afternoon I desire to make a few slight corrections.

Referring to the godowns of the Yangtze Wharf and Godown Co., it should read "two of their godowns were two-storied," not "three storied."

Referring to the height of cargo to be deposited at the godowns of the new Company I stated as follows:—"As, however, the height to which cargo could be stored in the Yangtze Company was reckoned at 7 ft. 6 in., on the same reckoning, the cubic capacity of the proposed godown would be 4,900,000 cubic ft."

What I quoted from was not properly the Articles of Association, but the Memorandum of Association, which is the real charter of the Company.

When I mentioned that Tael 1,380,000 would be a good selling price, I included both the Old Dock property and the Cosmopolitan Dock property, and not merely the former.

I take this opportunity of stating that within seven days I will enter my protest, not out of hostility to any of the promoters of the new scheme, but for giving an opportunity of testing a very important legal question connected with Corporation Law.—I am, etc.

November 28.

GILBERT REID.

To the Editor of the
"CHINA GAZETTE."

Sir,—I regret my letter to your senior morning contemporary was not deemed worthy of a reply either from the directors or legal advisers of the Company, as there are a number of shareholders who are still in the dark as to the legality or otherwise of the resolution supposedly passed.

I heard, however, to-day that the directors have been advised that the notice calling the meeting is sufficient; now this notice only calls for a meeting to consider certain proposals and that particulars of such proposals and resolutions submitted will be sent to the shareholders by post.

Now, I submit that under no circumstances can this be deemed to be the legally "due notice" required; an advertisement which states that notice will be given cannot be construed into reading that notice has been given.

The Act says that "notice specifying the intention to propose any resolution must be duly given."

No notice of intention to propose any resolution was sent out until Oct. 22 and this notice was cancelled by one issued on the 29th inst.; two days before the meeting.

To emphasise my contention that notice was not given in the manner required by the regulations of the Company, I will take the case of a shareholder residing in Yik Hongkong; he receives his notice dated on 22nd October say on the 26th October and finds that it is proposed to give him either a quarter of the paid-up value of his investment in cash or paper, the option being his. He thinking Tls. 25 cash down not a bad proposition, sends his proxy to A. B. in Shanghai, instructs him to vote for the resolution; now on the 29th inst. I issued the first real notice, clarifying what the resolution is and away he finds he must take paper in a company, the future success of which is problematical; this second notice reaches him on the 2nd of November, a day after the fair.

In course of time he finds that A. B. in Shanghai using his own discretion has voted for the scheme and he thus finds himself in the position of a supporter to a scheme to which he may have many serious objections.

I quote this supposititious case to prove my contention that legal notice as meant by the Act was not given.

I trust at the meeting to be held to-morrow, that it will be made quite clear that the resolution itself was legally in order and was passed by the necessary majority.—Yours truly,

H. E. MCCANN.

Shanghai, 26th Nov.

To the Editor of the
"SHANGHAI MERCURY."

Sir,—In reference to the correspondence re the Dock Co.'s property and the decision of the shareholders at the meeting on the 27th inst. to form a Godown Company, I desire to express my satisfaction at the turn which things have taken. I am in accord with the Report of the Special Committee, and I think that the opinion of Messrs Nielsen and Reid is scarcely to be weighed against that of commercial men like Messrs Taylor, Marshall, Bridou, Barham, and De Gray. These gentlemen have calculated an earning of 7 per cent. but I can assure Messrs. Nielsen and Reid, and others who are opposed to the new scheme, that not only 7 per cent. but 20 and even 25 per cent. may be realised on the capital involved.

In this connection I may perhaps be allowed to relate a circumstance coming under my own notice. About 1865 a seafaring friend of mine in Hongkong told me that he was tired of the seafaring life and wished to put his small capital into some sort of business. I advised him to commence a godown business and he did so, with the result that on his death recently he was able to leave over a million dollars for the benefit of his family.

What are we to think of this?—I am, etc.,
J. M. G.

Shanghai, 29th November.

Sir,—I shall feel obliged if you will kindly supplement your very excellent report of the Dock meeting with the table enclosed herewith. Such a table ought of course to be quite unnecessary, were it not for the fact that at least a dozen well-known business men in Shanghai cannot seem to grasp the simple problem of capital.

	Capital.	Profit.
105 godowns.....	Tls. 3,000,000	14 "
12 " " " " " "	2,600,000	14 "
105 steamers.....	2,516,000,000	10 "
12 " " " " " "	3,000,000	10 "
105 houses.....	Tls. 3,000,000	14 "
12 " " " " " "	3,000,000	14 "
In the settlement.		
* At Siccawei		
I am, etc.		

THE OLD DOCK PROPERTY.

BUILDING SITES.	feet.
West side of Dock:	
Sheerleg to edge of Dock	22
(solid)	20
Edge of Dock to bottom tier	—
Available for building	51
From which to deduct for passage	10
Leaving a width of.....	41
N. to S. Length	410
Deduct space betn. 2 godowns	10
Leaving length from N. to S.....	400
Building area therefore 41 x 400	16,400 sq. ft.
Four floors at that space	4 sq. ft.
	65,600 sq. ft.
Storage of cargo average 7 ft.	7
	459,200 c. ft.

Less to be deducted:

30 per cent. for passage ways for coolies to carry cargo and for space between each lot of goods.....

20 per cent. for broken stowage loss, thickness of walls and pillars and distance goods have to be kept off from walls to guard against damp.....

Actual storage capacity.....

East side of Dock:

Keelson Rd. to edge of Dock (solid).....

Edge of Dock to bottom tier (steps).....

Width available for building.....

Less for passage.....

Leaving a width of.....

Length N. to S.....

Less for space between 4 godowns.....

Leaving length of.....

Building area therefore 138 x 370.....

Four floors at that space.....

Storage, average 7 feet high.....

Less to be deducted:

30% for passage ways for coolies to carry cargo, and for space between each lot of goods.....

20 per cent. for broken stowage loss, thickness of walls and pillars, and distance goods have to be kept from walls to guard against damp.....

Actual storage capacity.....

Therefore:

2 Godowns on Western site.....

4 Godowns on Eastern site.....

Total storage capacity on entire Old Dock property.....

As against Mr. Taylor's 2,700,000 cubic feet and the shareholders might deplore the speaker from Shanghai for ever if he proved wrong (Laughter). Even his figure was far too high, for every inch of ground which could be used, and every cubic foot was supposed to be occupied every day of the year.

Sir.—Your correspondent J. M. G. gives us the assurance that "20 and even 25 per cent. may be realised on the capital involved" in the proposed Godown Co. I reply that no man even a "commercial" man can give us such an assurance; assurances easily made quickly vanish.

Messrs. Taylor, Marshall, Bridou, Barham, Burkall and De Gray as compared with Messrs. Nielsen and Reid are greater men: this is one argument in favour of the new scheme.

The facts presented and made public by Mr. Nielsen have impressed me as more minute and comprehensive and trustworthy than the calculations and conclusions of the above named great men: this is my reason against the scheme. It is a case of figures and facts rather than of comparative greatness of personalities.

The fact cited by your correspondent is an irrefutable argument for the new scheme—I am willing to acknowledge.

In my humble way I have presented a fact—a mathematical formula—against the scheme as follows:—230,000 cubic feet. Tls. 27,500; 187,500 cu. ft.; Tls. 75,000. When I began to investigate the data of the Yangtze Company and the new Company, I did not know what the result would be. I was willing to take the result, either for or against the new scheme. I hence was found against the scheme as the facts were against it. You may, if you please, mark my personality as zero, but not the mathematical formula.

One other thing should be borne in mind: the capital of the Yangtze Company is marked at Tls. 250,000 (with no debentures), and of the new Company as Tls. 1,380,000 (with debentures of Tls. 1,220,000). It is this that hinders a large income for the new Company, though the men connected with the new Company are great men. If the deficiency of the funds will be supplied by these men, then I may be induced to accept the new scheme.—remain, etc.,

GILBERT REID.

Shanghai, 30th November.

When passing down the harbour on Sunday afternoon the s.s. *Tenzer's* propeller fouled the moorings of the chequered buoy which marks the western edge of the man-of-war anchorage. The mooring chain got round the propeller and the buoy was dragged out of position. In shipping circles it is said that this buoy is a perfect nuisance to shipping, having to be always carefully looked out for and dodged.

CHUNG SHUN KOO'S BANK.

RUPICU.

JUDGMENT ON MOTION.

6th inst.

In Bankruptcy Jurisdiction this morning, His Honour delivered the following decision on the motion in the case of Chung Shun Koo, reserved from last week.

His Honour said: It looked at first sight as if I should have to decide the much vexed question whether the English Bankruptcy regulations were in force in this Colony in virtue of the joint operation of Section 71 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance and Sections 3 and 4 of the C. C. P. It seems probable, however, that the question will only be solved piecemeal and by a gradual process of elimination. I have now only to consider whether the English rule 320 is in force here. The operation of section 71 is this: "The provisions of section 320 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance shall not be subject to the limitation that the rule should not be inconsistent with the Bankruptcy Ordinance, and on the face of it the English rule 320 is inconsistent. It begins, 'a lease may be disclaimed, without the leave of the Court, in the following cases,' which fits on to Section 55 (3) 'a trustee shall not be entitled to disclaim a lease, without the leave of the Court, except in any case which may be prescribed by general rules.' The provisions of Section 55 (3) of the Bankruptcy Ordinance are simply 'a trustee shall not be entitled to disclaim a lease without leave of the Court.' The cases dealt with in Section 320, one of which was attempted to be set up here, do not apply to this Colony. This leaves us with the broad general rule that a lease cannot be disclaimed without leave of the Court. This must mean that a disclaimer is not a disclaimer until it has been sanctioned by the Court, which of itself precludes the possibility of allowing a disclaimer to have a retrospective operation. For this reason, added for such a retrospective operation might go to the extent of introducing by a side wind conditions similar to the cases contemplated in English rule 320. I do not think, therefore, that I will unravel the disputed interpretation of what took place between Mr. Lowe and Mr. Deacon on the one side and Mr. Deacon and Mr. Shelton Hooper on the other. I must point out, however, that Mr. Lowe, in his affidavit of 14th November, at the end of paragraph 6, says, 'Deacon added to the matter on the 14th November, and on the 14th September in a letter to Mr. d'Almeida e Castro he says, 'Mr. Deacon already has my instructions in the matter of the disclaimer.' Under any circumstances, therefore, it would be impossible to hold that the Land Investment Co. had received an official notice on 14th September of Mr. Lowe's intention to disclaim, and so far as the written notice of the 25th October to disclaim, this as I have already said, is not of itself sufficient to operate as an actual disclaimer until the leave of the Court has been given. While, therefore, I give leave to disclaim, I cannot make it operative except from the time when the order is drawn up. This carries with it the right of the Company to retain rents accrued out of the \$7,500 in their hands. With regard to the remaining question, I am not at all clear how and for what the Company will prove in the Bankruptcy; but that question is not before me now. This point, however, does seem clear. The money in their hands is called a security, and the claim which they will make is a claim within the objects for which the money was deposited with them in security. It is the debtors' money, and the Company have a lien upon it, expressly created by the deed. They therefore come within the definition of secured creditors in the Bankruptcy Ordinance. The motion having raised points on which the Trustees have been unsuccessful, the Company must have their costs of the motion, out of the estate.

I have now to deal with certain questions arising out of my judgment on the motion of the Trustee calling on certain creditors to satisfy their claims, and in default that their claims be expunged. The decision of this motion follows in natural and logical sequence from that judgment. The Trustee being the successor in title of the Official Receiver can do no more than the Official Receiver himself. The claim of any creditor having been admitted, the Official Receiver could not come to the Court and say merely: 'I have changed my mind regarding to a certain creditor and I want his claim investigated.' Nor can the Trustee say that he can do as the Official Receiver or Trustee, as the case may be, can come to this Court with some ground of suspicion, some definite reason why he considers such and such a claim needs further investigation. I cannot put the decision of the Official Receiver to admit the claim quite on the high level of a judgment, neither can I hold on the other hand that the Official Receiver in the performance of his duty imposed upon him by section 30 (e) is a merely ministerial officer. He may be a ministerial officer, but he is not to be treated as such. He is to be treated as a person who must come to a decision upon the evidence before him, whether that originally furnished or that which he has called for; and an appeal from his decision lies to this Court. His duties therefore are clearly ministerial in this instance. Looking at the question generally, what does the Trustee propose that this Court should do here? Merely call on the creditors to substantiate or adduce further evidence in support of their claims, without adding the slightest evidence or giving any reason for casting suspicion against the scheme of his request. The mere fact that learned counsel has been instructed to call them "bogs" creditors, as he did throughout his argument, is not sufficient; nor is the assumption that the Court will be hoodwinked unless the motion is acceded to. The creditors are entitled to remain in the position in which the acceptance of their claims by the Official Receiver has put them; and if the Trustee has any ground for supposing that the Official Receiver erred in accepting the documents, or if he had any ground of suspicion that the claim is a bogus one let him come to this Court and say so, giving his reasons and the Court will consider them. Without it—No! So much for the general aspect of the question. But with regard to the special case of the nil contract, a case has clearly been made on the law, and the mere mention of the word "differences" in the contract shows that the question requires investigation and not a little more particularly what that contract really is. Was it a wagering contract, or was it a time bargain? There is nothing to show. And as it is clear that the Court of Bankruptcy can go behind even a judgment, it is clear that all the circumstances under which time contracts were entered into can be made the subject of inquiry. Directly this inquiry is sanctioned it is of course impossible to limit it, and the questions put to the creditor may inevitably include such as I cannot help, nor, as the claim has been sworn to will it involve any additional hardship or expense, or any departure from the general principle I have laid down. As to the procedure, there is no need for any issue, nor any pleadings. I shall call upon this creditor to come before the Court, as a person whom the Court deems capable of giving information

respecting the debtor's dealings, under Section 26 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance. I shall treat the proof accepted by the Official Receiver as a sufficient *prima facie* proof of his claim, and he may then be cross-examined by counsel for the Trustee, and re-examined by the counsel who is appearing for him. The question of costs is reserved.

Mr. Slade: With respect, my Lord, should I not examine in chief?

His Honour: I don't think so. I propose to treat it as a *prima facie* proof.

Sir Henry Berkeley: With all due respect, my Lord, you have accepted the proof as accepted by the Official Receiver. Let me learned friend put the main into Court and examine him as to the evidence of his claim.

Mr. Slade: I am not prepared to go on at present. My Lord, nor can I be ready by next week.

His Honour: Well, the matter should come up before the vacation. I can give you the 18th inst., provisionally, so as not to clash with the assizes; or perhaps the 19th, if Mr. Justice Wise will take a case at the assizes.

Adjourned until the 18th inst.

TAOTAI SHUM TUANG.

AND HIS BROTHER.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, and December.

H. E. Chow Fu, appreciating the ability of Taotai Shum Tung has appointed him to the post of Chief Organizing Military officer of the two Kwang. It is understood that H. E. Chow hopes that this appointment will be the means of suppressing crime to a very great extent in those provinces.

Upon this appointment being made Shum Tung, an elder brother of Taotai Shum Tung, sent an official capacity in H. E. Chow. H. E. Chow sent for Shum Tung, and was surprised and pleased to find what a very good knowledge of the English language he possessed, he being able to both speak and write that language fluently. Seeing this H. E. Chow immediately appointed Shum Tung to be one of his under-secretaries.

OPUM AND REFORM.

In spite of the fact that the regulations for the suppression of opium which were published in our columns on November 23 have formally received the Imperial sanction, have been officially communicated to the British Legation in Peking and have been circulated among the Viceroy's, they still lack the force of an actual Edict. Until this formality is gone through, it would appear that the native Press is unwilling to comment upon the Regulations and to throw any light upon the feasibility of their enforcement.

As the subject of the suppression of opium smoking, all important as it is to the welfare of China at large, has also a special bearing on the course of the present reform movement, his conspiracy of silence in the native Press and the openly sceptical attitude of Chinese officials and others towards the efficacy of the new Regulations do not augur well for the success of the campaign against opium. So long as public opinion, however, remains more or less inactive, the Government will have to rely on the force of the Regulations and the openly sceptical attitude of Chinese officials and others towards the efficacy of the new Regulations do not augur well for the success of the campaign against opium.

As a matter of fact the tenor of the document already sanctioned by their Imperial Majesties excludes the need of submitting it to being held, not without some justification, to indicate a marked falling-off in the opium returns of the Customs in certain ports—in itself a welcome feature—there is no very satisfactory evidence forthcoming to prove that the average of the general consumption throughout the country is not being maintained. Even if we are able to find that the traffic in opium is stationary or actually on the decrease, the fact remains that the revenue derived from the drug forms a considerable item in the country's exchequer, and such a sum can hardly be surrendered by a stroke of a pen before a decision is made to replace it from other sources.

It would be well, therefore, if the Edict promulgating the Regulations were to contain some reference to the financial aspect of the problem as an indication of the bona fides behind the attempt to suppress the use of opium. Merely to prohibit free traffic in opium in order to establish, perhaps, a Government monopoly for revenue purposes will not only fail to secure for China any moral or physical advantage, but will seriously injure it in the prospect of reform.

As the case stands at present, however, it is made a well, therefore, if the Edict promulgating the Regulations were to contain some reference to the financial aspect of the problem as an indication of the bona fides behind the attempt to suppress the use of opium. Merely to prohibit free traffic in opium in order to establish, perhaps, a Government monopoly for revenue purposes will not only fail to secure for China any moral or physical advantage, but will seriously injure it in the prospect of reform.

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RETURN OF MR. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

BY THE F. AND O. S. "NUBIA."

Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., Mrs. May and family returned to Hongkong this morning in the "Nubia," being met on board by Mr. R. A. P. Poon, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, as representing His Excellency. While the arrival was, of course, purely private and informal, the members of the Legislative Council assembled on Blake Pier to welcome their returning colleague, as did also a number of Mr. and Mrs. May's personal friends. Upon landing Mrs. May and family proceeded to their residence at the Peak, while Mr. May paid a brief visit to His Excellency at Government House, then following his family home. This afternoon Mr. and Mrs. May and family again visited His Excellency the Governor.

On Monday next, Mr. May will be sworn in as Officer Administering the Government of the Colony.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE CHIT SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—There is no doubt in my mind that the present chit system, when entrusted to all such men, who are in a more or less devious, careless, and indifferent as regards money matters, is a most pernicious system and one that certainly should be strongly put down by every right thinking person and other employers of clerks. In too many cases, the chit system is detrimental to a young fellow and therefore a check to his progress and prospects in life, and in some, if not many cases, leads to his downfall.

I am well aware that other contributors to your paper have written on the evil effects of the above system in a much able way than I can, but one must never despair in looking for a change with this system—cases of necessity excepted—will be a thing of the past—Yours, etc.

CASUAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Hongkong, 3rd December.

HARDSHIPS OF GOVERNMENT CLERKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—The Hongkong Government Gazette should be dignified, and like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion. It has been observed that the pages are close to such comparatively minor and insignificant events as the appointments or promotions of the little army of clerks, overseers, wardens, etc., etc., embraced in the one sweeping term of subordinates. Perhaps they are, in the eyes of the official big pots, neither fish, fowl, nor even good red herring, and yet its pages are not closed to adding the finishing touches to a subordinate's forced or even voluntary departure from the service, to the detriment of his future career.

As witness the recent case of the messenger who was "dismissed from the service of the Government for misconduct." For an error of judgment, which no one regrets more than he, this man, or rather lad, for he is no more than that, tendered his resignation which in any other service would have been accepted, and the incident thereby closed, but it was distorted into a dismissal.

The word used "misconduct" has rather a wide meaning, and to the unknown public it may mean anything, bribe-taking, etc., etc. "The punishment should be the crime," but where no crime has been committed, as in this case, the chastisement meted out is very excessive and quite unnecessary, in my living, as it does, loss of character, one month's pay and, what is more than all, blight a young man's career to the very bud. And this brings us back to the opening sentence of this letter. Perhaps the presence of H.F. the Governor, was wanting to "mix" at his disposal—Yours faithfully,

Hongkong, 3rd December, 1906.

FRENCH CONVENT BAZAAR.

FUNDS FOR NEW HOSPITAL NEEDED.

All who recognize and appreciate the good work which is being quietly and unostentatiously performed by the Sisters at the Asile de la Sainte Enfant—which is better known as the French Convent—will make a point of attending the annual bazaar and sale of work which takes place at the City Hall on Tuesday, the 11th inst. The bazaar has not been decided within the convent itself, but as might naturally be supposed many found the distance from the centre of the city too far to permit of their attending. The consequence was that the function hardly came up to expectations. On this occasion there is a double purpose in bringing the bazaar to the attention of the public. As most people know, there is a hospital for sick children within the walls of the Convent but having found that at some seasons it proved inadequate for all requirements, the Sisters decided to erect a new hospital in 1, Brighton Hill Road. The hospital is in course of construction, but funds have dwindled away and it is found necessary to appeal to the generosity of the public as buyers at the bazaar. Most of the articles which will be on exhibition, that is to say for sale, are the work of the children attending the Convent. They consist of lace-work and embroideries of every description, and those who remember the display of lace and Art and Crafts Exhibition will understand that the designs and general effect are admirable, and that they are really works of art. As they will be sold at low prices they should attract the attention of ladies. We are also told that gentlemen will find articles which will be found excellent as Christmas presents for their friends. It should be stated that there are some 400 Chinese orphans at the Convent and it is therefore expected that the Chinese community will be subscribing for the goods at the bazaar, which will open at 4 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon and close at 6 o'clock. We wish the promoters every success in their laudable undertaking.

THE EXPLOSION ON THE "MIKASA."

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The result of the investigations into the cause of the disaster to the battleship Mikasa has been published by the Navy Department.

The committee has decided that the disaster was due to the spontaneous combustion of gunpowder or other ammunition stored in the magazine of the battleship. It is declared that the disaster was the result of the heat caused to the vital point by a spontaneous change in the powder. No blame is attached to the crew of the battleship in their action in dealing with the powder before the calamity, and it is decided that the officers responsible for the safe-guarding of the powder were in no way to blame, having shown so much neglect of their duty.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 30th November.

With reference to H.E. the Viceroy's intention of installing wireless telegraph in Canton, his foreign secretary, Mr. Chan Shou Pang, has visited Messrs. Cawston and Co., Shanghai, and has made all necessary arrangements for the purchase of materials, etc., and has signed a contract with the company to supply the instrument for installation.

LAND & WATER TRANSPORTATION.

Yesterday all the steam towing launches, junks, etc., plying between Fatsan and Canton, ceased running. The cause of their stopping is said to be the opening of the Canton-Samshui Railway. The public mostly now give the preference to the new form of conveyance rather than the old tedious mode of communication, thus inflicting great loss to launch owners and others.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

The Viceroy has within the last few days received a good number of visitors and yesterday he received the teachers of the different schools and colleges of Canton, and the board of directors of the Yuet-han Railway Company.

DELIVERY OF MAIL.

The letter-carriers of the I.P.O. have been submitted to a great deal of delay through the interference of the guards, wardens and other railway officials at Shek Wai Tsun, on the Canton-Fatsan Railway. It is reported that the Commissioner of Post has communicated with the Viceroy, advising H.E. to issue a proclamation forbidding the railway officials and guards to in any way delay the mail.

GASOLINE LAMPS.

The shopkeepers of Canton are now all mostly using incandescent gasoline lamps for illuminating their premises. There is a certain amount of danger involved in burning these lamps, through the gas heat they produce. Last night at Shek Wai Tsun, one of these lamps exploded and set fire to a foreign goods store, but owing to timely assistance the fire was put out. Now the shopkeepers of the said street have vied with one another, to prohibit the use of such lamps on their premises.

A GOOD COUNSELLOR.

H.E. Wu Ting Fang has been staying in the Viceroy's yamen for the last few days. P.E. Viceroy Chow often consults him on official affairs especially foreign affairs and rarely comes to any conclusion without the former official's advice.

DISPOSAL OF NOYCCOT FUNDS.

A meeting of the Noyccot Association was held in the Kwong Chi Hospital to-day, to discuss the ways and means of disposing of the funds of the association, which have been accumulated during the period of the American goods boycott. After discussion it was decided to apply the funds to establish industrial establishments, to manufacture goods that were formerly imported from foreign countries, so as to prevent the commercial interests of the country from flowing out to foreign countries.

EXPORTATION OF RICE.

Owing to the high price of rice now ruling at Canton the Canton Chamber of Commerce has petitioned H.E. the Viceroy to prohibit the export of rice to other provinces and to foreign countries. The Viceroy has issued instructions to the different customs, like, and other local officials at Canton, Kowloon and Lappa, to strictly prohibit the export of this commodity from any of those ports.

SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

The postman of the Imperial Post Office, who was handed over to the Nanyang Magistrate by the Commissioner of Post, for neglect of duty, in losing a parcel of letters, whilst delivering letters, was tried before the Magistrate. The man admitted the offence and has to forfeit three months' salary from his security and be dismissed.

THE NEW JUDGE.

The new provincial Judge, a Chi, who arrived at Hongkong on the 29th ult., went on board the Chinese gunboat Chan To, and left for Canton, the same evening; he arrived at Whampoa safely yesterday forenoon. It is reported that he will take over the seal of office on the 5th inst.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

H.E. Viceroy Chow Fu proceeded this morning to the Shamene to visit the different foreign Consuls, and the Commissioners of Customs and Post.

PROTECTION FOR MISSIONARIES.

Yesterday the French Consul-General at Canton lodged a complaint with H.E. the Viceroy, stating that he had received word to the effect that, since the new sub-magistrate of Yeung Kow took over office at that place, he has not taken steps to give the necessary protection to the French missionaries there, and there are frequent rumours that the natives intend to destroy the church and attack the missionaries. The Consul requested the Viceroy to give the sub-magistrate orders to afford the missionaries effective protection.

PETITIONS.

The Viceroy has issued a notification stating that henceforth when persons intend to submit petitions to him on any matter, the petitions should be written on printed forms obtainable from the Canton Government Paper Manufactory, otherwise the petitions will not be received. There are two kinds of forms, one for important affairs and one for ordinary affairs. The former form costs \$1.00 each and the latter 50 cents each.

CANTON-WHAMPOA RAILWAY.

H.E. Chow Fu is anxious to know all about the working of the Canton-Wampoa railway on which work is now steadily proceeding. H.E. Chow will take an early opportunity to consult with H.E. Chang Pat Sze regarding this railway. H.E. Chang invited the Viceroy, H.E. Wu Ting Fang, H.E. Wu Seng I um and others to a dinner at the Dutch Folly this afternoon.

PUBLIC GARDEN.

The proposal of the ex-Viceroy Shum to build a public garden after the style of those in foreign countries, on the reclamation ground in Chung Lung How, has been approved by the Viceroy. The construction of the garden in question is expected to recommence shortly.

A CA' RIAGE ROAD.

The building of the Malu from the east gate to Shek Ho and its branch roads from Tung Ming monastery to the north gate is now completed. The contractor accordingly handed it over to the charge of officials on the 29th ult.

CEMENT MANUFACTURE.

The right of opening the Fashi Cove quarry in Fa Yuen district, of which the materials can be manufactured into cement, has been taken back by the Government. The other day, the Viceroy sent some waymen to make an inspection and the necessary arrangements.

CHINESE NEWSPAPERS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd December.

Since the arrival of H.E. Chow Fu the native papers published in Hongkong have been imported in large quantities. On the 1st inst. when a certain Wong Hoi was landing some newspapers from the s.s. Fatsan, he was stopped and searched by a foreign Customs officer and a Chinese Customs officer. The latter produced a warrant of the Viceroy Shum who prohibited the importation of Hongkong native papers with the exception of the Wah Tat, Pat, Tsun Wan Yat Pao and Chung Ngon Sun Pao. Those of Wong's papers under prohibition were detained and Wong himself was handed over to the Postal Commissioner to be dealt with. Afterwards he was bailed out upon a security of \$100.

DARING ROBBERY.

A few days ago H.E. Tang Shao Yu's house at his native village in the Heunshan district was attacked by robbers and the booty carried away amounted to about \$2,000. As soon as the report of this robbery reached the Viceroy, he at once sent the Brigadier General Wong Pui Tsang of Kwangchow with his soldiers to the spot to arrest the offenders. It is reported that the Viceroy also gave Wong a death warrant to accompany him, so that the latter can execute the culprits immediately after capture.

ADMIRAL LI CHOW.

It is rumoured that Admiral Li Chow will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Canton Navy and Expectant Admiral Cheung Ting Shun will be appointed to replace the Admiral.

A COMPLAINT.

Dr. Swan of the Canton Hospital sent a petition to the Viceroy through the American Consul-General, complaining about the noise from the junk passengers on the jetties built in front of the hospital and requesting the authorities to remove these jetties away at least 300 feet from the vicinity of the hospital. On receipt of the petition the Viceroy has instructed the officials of the Bund Department to make an inquiry into the complaint.

H.E. WU TING-FANG.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 4th December.

A telegram from Peking states that the Throne has accepted H.E. Wu Ting Fang's resignation from the service. H.E. Wu Ting Fang left for Hongkong yesterday. H.E. Chow appeared sorry at his departure, and he personally saw him off. H.E. Wu asked the Viceroy to let him know all important affairs as they occur.

THE VICE-ROY'S TELEGRAPH CODE.

The Viceroy wanted to have the telegraph code-book, which consists of more than 10,000 characters now in use in his yamen, to be re-written in big characters, so that he can read them more easily. His secretary has accordingly made one copy for him.

LIGHTING THE VICE-ROYAL YAMEN.

As there are not sufficient electric lamps for use in the Viceroy's yamen, the Viceroy ordered some three hundred electric lamps more to be installed there. The approximate number of electric lamps in the Viceroy's yamen is now seven hundred.

CHINESE NEWSPAPERS.

Yesterday another man was detained by Customs officers for landing native papers published in Hongkong. Now all Hongkong native papers, not only those under prohibition, are not allowed to be imported here. On inquiry it is found that by order of the I.P.O., Hongkong native papers cannot be imported to Canton without stamps.

TREE PLANTING.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 5th December.

The authorities have decided to plant trees on each side of the newly formed roads. A Chinese merchant has sent in the following suggestions on the matter. That he is willing to offer a royalty of two thousand taels, if he is granted the sole privilege to look after and plant olive trees along the roads and that at the end of three years, he is willing to pay an annual royalty of five hundred dollars.

NEW COINS.

The officials in charge of the Canton Mint have decided shortly to mint new coins, under the recent revised regulations, bearing the words "Ta Ching" (China). It has been decided to mint copper cents of that description at first and then gradually to introduce silver coins of the value of one tael, five maces, two maces, one mace and five candareen pieces.

RECRUITING RAILWAY LABOURERS.

Being informed by the Commissioner of Customs at Wuchow that a vessel flying the Canton-Hankow Railway Company's flag, fully loaded with labourers, had lately left that port, the Superintendent of the Customs sent a despatch to the Canton-Hankow Railway Company here, asking them if they had recruited labourers from Kwangsi to work on their roads. In reply the company assured him that they have not recruited any labourers from that province, and that if they did so, they should have notified the Kwangsi authorities beforehand. The company request the superintendent to stop, arrest and deal with any vessel when found, in future, passing that port with labourers on board and flying the company's flag.

THE NEW PROVINCIAL JUDGE.

H.E. Chu Shou Yung took over the seals of office of the Canton Provincial Judge at 10 a.m. to-day.

SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY.

In accordance with the Viceroy's request Admiral Li Chow has drawn up and handed him some maps and plans showing clearly the Kwangtung waterways, etc., as the Viceroy intends to keep a good look-out and to suppress the pirates, who harbour in various places.

RAILWAY BOARD OF ARBITRATION.

As difficulties are often arising in connection with the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, the Viceroy proposes to establish a Railway Board of Arbitration, to which he wishes to appoint the Provincial Treasurer Yu as president and Taotai Sun Tung vice-president, so that they may occasionally consult with the Canton railway and shareholders in order to place the Company in good management. At the same time the decision of the board in question will in no way interfere with the financial affairs of the Company. The Viceroy is expected to issue instructions shortly for the establishment of this proposed board.

GOVERNMENT STORES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 6th December.

It has long since been a customary practice that government stores are to be covered by Government Stores Certificates and to be exempted from any duties. In former years in the whole of China the average annual duties on government stores exempted

aggregated some six or seven hundred thousand taels, and in 1904 the figures of this item showed the amount of over 1,000,000 taels, and it is expected to increase year after year. From the 18th, quarterly returns of the Inspector-General of Customs, the figures of this item showed the amount of some 2,400,000 taels. In considering this enormous sum of duties on Government stores exempted H.E. Tsih Liang and H.E. Tang Shao Yu, Comptrollers-General of Customs, submitted a memorial to the Throne recommending the discontinuation of exemption of duties on them, so that the collection of revenue will become more substantial. Their memorial has been favourably approved by the Throne and it is reported that instructions have been received here from the Shunlu Chu-instructing the Customs on the subject.

Last night a fire broke out in Tai Ping Street. Fortunately there was no strong wind at the time and it was extinguished without much difficulty. One house was completely gutted.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

The Eastern Times (She-pao) on 30th ult. published the following article:—

In the Kowloon-Canton Railway there are two sections, which are to be managed by the Chinese and the British. The Chinese, for lack of funds for the construction of their section had to borrow a sum of \$1,500,000 from the British Government, and for want of a competent engineer to carry out the work, they had to enter into a contract with a British Company for its execution. During all that time, the representatives of the two Governments in Peking had been negotiating treaties regarding the railway, and to this day they have not yet been able to come to a settlement.

One of the demands made by the British Minister is a most extraordinary one, and one that engages all our attention. It is: "The Chinese Government after having given its assent to the construction of this line by a British Company, should not permit another line to be built near Canton that would be detrimental to the interests of this line." If this demand is acceded to, then the Cantonese may never expect to build another railway in any part of the Kwangtung province again. The right of building railway lines in that province will be lost forever. The Cantonese may well fold their arms and wait patiently for the British to bind the hand and foot and to strangle them to death. Can the people of Kwangtung be silent when such a fate is awaiting them?

In order to protest against any foreign demand, we must try to understand perfectly its nature and examine into its history. Since negotiations in connection with this railway have commenced in the Chinese capital the Waiwamp have agreed to many disadvantageous demands from the British Minister. But when these agreements were telegraphed to the Viceroy, they were almost unanimously opposed by him. And this demand under discussion was one of those that the Viceroy had so vigorously combated.

I think the intention of the British Government in making this demand is that the proposed Canton-Amy railway might not be successful, for if it had succeeded, it would not only take away all the commerce of the country lying to the east of the Chukin gully which the British in building the Kowloon-Railway line certainly have an eye on, but also might possibly diminish the prosperity of Hongkong, by making Whampoa a commercial depot through which the Canton-Amy Railway will run. There is no such thing as a free lunch, and the opposite parties in this world, it cannot be that after the completion of the Canton-Amy Railway, the trade between Canton and Hongkong will in no way slacken, nor can it be that after the Kowloon-Canton line is built, the Canton-Amy will have so much commerce as without the Kowloon-Canton line.

The British Government might say that this demand was made solely with a view to the protection of the Kowloon-Canton railway's interests, and she had not the least intention to interfere with China's right of building railway lines in the province of Kwangtung, but are we to believe in her sincerity?

I have heard that Peking is now praising Viceroy Chow Fu to the agreement of this demand, and I fear that he will not be strong enough to oppose it. Although this is an issue between the two Governments, still the Cantonese should not be inactive when their vital interests are so nearly concerned. Yes, I know the Cantonese can never assume a passive attitude towards such a matter. They will surely protest against it, and the day of their protest is fast at hand.—Shanghai Times.

BRITISH-CHINESE LOAN AGREEMENT.

PROTEST BY CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 4th December.

A telegram from the Canton people residing at Shanghai was received by the Canton Chamber of Commerce, in which they asked the Canton people to derive means and to make a joint protest against the agreement of the loan for the Canton-Kowloon railway, by which it is said that much of the privilege of this railway will be taken by foreigners. On the 1st inst. a meeting was held in the Canton Chamber of Commerce, at which a resolution was passed to the effect that Chinese capitalists should subscribe to build this railway instead of raising a foreign loan, and that the Canton-Hankow Railway Company should be completely sold to the Chinese nation. That will petition the Viceroy and the Peking Government on the matter and also inform the Chinese in foreign countries, so as to maintain the interest of this railway.

H. B. CHOW FU

AND THE CHINESE NEWSPAPERS.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd December.

When H.E. Shum was Viceroy of the two Kwang he issued orders prohibiting the importation of certain Chinese newspapers into Canton, on the ground that they were advocates of reform in China. As soon, however, as H.E. Chow Fu had taken office, the prohibition was lifted. It is reported that the Viceroy, after giving permission for the papers to be imported as in former times. These papers were unfortunately, however, imported through the post box of Hung An Kee, and this led to trouble, for a few days ago a letter-carrier from that box was arrested and searched by a Chinese customs officer, and taken before the Postmaster. That official ordered that the carrier be charged with defrauding the Imperial Majesty's postal revenue, by carrying and delivering unstamped papers, which had been imported from Hongkong. The arrested man was allowed, out on bail of \$100 in cash, and was later ordered to be placed before the party Court for examination and trial at an early date.

THE YUET-HAN RAILWAY.

H. E. CHOW FU WANTS OFFICE IN THE CITY.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd December.

That H.E. Chow Fu's interest in the affairs of the Yuet-han Railway Co., Ltd., is no passing one, but is deep-rooted and sincere as manifested by the fact that H.E. has announced his intention of having a branch office of that company established inside the City, in order that H.E. may be brought into closer touch with the officials, and give more personal attention to matters concerning the administration and working of the railway. At present the office is so far away that much time is spent needlessly in communicating with it.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 5th December.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Yuet-han Railway Co., Ltd., was held at the Canton Offices of the company yesterday, at which it is estimated that 10,000 shareholders were present. The object of the meeting was to consider and pass a resolution for the appointing of a special committee to audit the books and accounts of the Railway Company periodically. The meeting went off very well, and the resolution was passed unanimously. The personnel of the audit committee is now under consideration.

H. E. CHOW FU CONCERNED ABOUT THE FINANCES.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 7th December.

H.E. Chow Fu is very much concerned about the state of the affairs of the Yuet-han Railway Co., Ltd., and has had a conference with Taotai Shum Tung, in regard to them. In the course of this conference H.E. Chow asked Taotai Shum if he could suggest some method of improving the condition of those affairs. Taotai Shum said the first step to take would be to send a despatch to Mr. Chang To Chai, now in Macao, requesting him to return at once to Canton to fix up matters without which it will be very difficult to settle affairs satisfactorily. Nearly the entire subscribed funds of the company amounting to \$8,875,362, have been lent to firms and individuals, some of which will be very difficult to recover, as there does not appear to be detailed accounts of these transactions. Therefore it was necessary for Chang To Chai to return to furnish a detailed statement. Taotai Shum said it was also advisable that H.E. Chow should ask Chang To Chai to return to the Presidency of the Company, if only temporarily. The committee was appointed under the resolution passed at the meeting held on the 4th ult., of which I wrote in my last, could then go into the accounts, which they could audit periodically.

H.E. Chow Fu then asked Taotai Shum which would be the best place in which to lodge the funds of the company, to which Taotai Shum replied that undoubtedly the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank would be the best place to deposit the funds, were it not for the heavy loss they must bear in exchanging the Canton coins for Hongkong notes, and the smallness of the interest allowed. He therefore proposed to deposit \$3,000,000 with the Hongkong Bank and part of the balance with native banks in Canton, as such places as those, of course, do not need to furnish security. The remainder could be let out in loans to mercantile houses of good repute, and firm standing, able to give satisfactory security. By this means it would benefit the money market of Canton, and such measures could not but be satisfactory to the shareholders.

It is understood that H.E. Chow has sent the despatch to Chang To Chai as advised, requesting him to return to Canton without delay, and once again to take up the appointment of President of the Company. Whether Chang To Chai has sent any reply to that despatch yet is at present unascertainable.

REBELLION IN KWANGSI.

H. E. SHUM REFUSES DETAILED ACCOUNT.

[From a Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd December.

It will be remembered that some time ago you were enabled to publish the fact that during H.E. Shum's viceroyalty of the two Kwang H.E. spent enormous sums of money, most of it in Canton, in endeavouring to suppress the rebellion in Kwangsi, and in establishing schools in those provinces. Those sums ran into several millions of taels, but no details of such enormous expenditure appear to have been returned, for it is now learned that the Ministry of Finance (Tuchihpu) at Peking asked H.E. Shum to furnish full and detailed accounts, showing how such enormous sums were expended. H.E. Shum has refused to do this merely concerning himself with meeting the sum total of that expenditure. On this account the Ministry of Finance has now requested H.E. Viceroy Chow Fu to inquire into the matter and submit a detailed account of the expenditure said to have been made by H.E. Shum.

IRON ORE NEAR CANTON.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The Manila Times says:—A mountain of solid iron, thousands of millions of tons of it, enough to supply the whole world with the base but indispensable metal for anywhere from fifteen to twenty years! Such is the story reading like a fable, which Adolph Aris, formerly of the Bureau of Architecture here, and who four years ago cast his lot with China and is now connected with a big Chinese development syndicate, has written him on his visit here. Mr. Aris is well known here.

The exact figures of this mighty mass, more valuable than diamond mines of the Rand or the auriferous deposits of the Klondike, are ten thousand and seven hundred and fifty millions of tons. This is the computation as calculated by the rigid and veracious geometrical test employed by modern science in such explorations.

As successful as this seems, it falls far below the estimate placed upon it by a member of the Royal Society of Engineers of Great Britain. Striking this mountain a few years ago in one of his prospects, he figured that it had enough of the ore to supply the world for almost a hundred years. So the estimate now placed upon it appears conservative in comparison. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the British engineer tried to secure a concession to work the mountain, but failed. It was too good a thing to part with.

The protests of Mr. Aris and other engineers have demonstrated to their satisfaction that the heart of the iron mountain is of the same material as its skin or surface. Within a short time, according to present plans, the work of demolishing the "treasure" will begin. Good coal is found in abundance in close proximity

while ten miles of railroad will suffice to bring the metal where it can connect with the world. The province in which it is located is Fukien, lying about 400 miles north of Canton. Mr. Aris' headquarters are in Canton.

It is the intention of the Chinese syndicate to keep the mountain all Chinese, in line with the present policy of China for the Chinese. Even such foreign employees as the syndicate are not allowed in on a percentage or profit-sharing basis. It is a case of straight salary only.

One peculiarity of the ore is that it resembles that of the fabled mountain of gold which cracks and passing ships by drawing from them all the nails and metallic parts causing the vessels to pieces and sink. It is magnetic. Mr. Aris says that the ore when picked up, bangs, together and forms a string, showing how strong is the magnetism it contains.

Speaking of the Chinese, Mr. Aris praises their enterprise, hospitality, and generosity. He says he would want no better persons to work for. Nearly every new employee of the syndicate is greeted with a reception and banquet and if he be of the first rank he is good for a week's feast. He asserts that at the present rate of advancement China will soon be a power to be reckoned with.

THE CHARGES AGAINST A BANK COMPROMISE.

FURTHER HEARING AT KOBE.

On the 26th ult., in the Kobe Chihho Saiban-sho, before Judge Hadano and two Associate Judges, three Chinese witnesses were examined to connection with the charge of fraud and embezzlement brought against Pan I-chih, known as Pan Kong, formerly the Chinese compradore at the Kobe branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. Liang Hoi-Chue, Chinese compradore of Messrs. S. J. David & Co., Kobe, was first examined. Witness, who spoke in Japanese, stated that he had held a post as compradore of a bank eighteen years ago. A compradore would receive a certain amount of money every morning from the manager, and make advances or discount bills according to his own judgment, and he need not necessarily obtain the approval of the manager for each transaction. He was, however, under the supervision of the manager, and not working independent of him. Sometimes the manager would not allow the compradore to advance money to a particular Chinese customer beyond a certain limit, and the compradore would have to obey that order. The manager would not consult the compradore on the credit of Chinese customers, but would in the ordinary course inquire for their references. The compradore was held responsible for any loss resulting from advances made by him, even when acting within the limits of the manager's order. The compradore would be liable to advance money on his own responsibility without obtaining the permission of the manager if he was prepared to compensate the bank for any loss. Even though he advance money with the permission of the manager, he was also liable to pay the compensation, in the event of loss. Such being the case, the compradore would in many instances advance money without consulting the manager. In doing this, he was naturally prepared to accept the responsibility.

In answer to Mr. Yokoyama, witness stated that the credit of Chinese customers of a bank was entirely left to the discretion of the compradore.

The next witness examined was the Chinese compradore of Messrs. Cornes & Co., Kobe, named Lu Si-yen. Witness was unable to speak Japanese sufficiently to give evidence, but made his statement through the interpreter of the Chinese Consulate. He stated that he had never served as a compradore of any bank, and so he knew nothing of the business of a bank compradore.

The Court discharged the witness, and called in a Chinese accountant in the Kobe branch of the Chartered Bank, named Pan Hong-chen. Witness stated that he was of the same name as the accused, but was no relation. He was working under the direction of the accused, but he was merely an accountant, so that he knew nothing of matters outside the duties appertaining to his position.

The Court also discharged this witness, stating that the Court saw no necessity of examining him.

On being asked if he had anything to say regarding the statement of the witness examined the accused replied in the negative.

Prosecutor Akiba stated that what was most important in this case was the authority of the compradore in the bank. According to the witness just called, the duties and power of a bank compradore and a compradore in a commercial

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadourie & Co. write on the 7th inst.—Business has been quiet during the week under review, and we have very few transactions to report.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have kept steady at \$805, at which rate they have been sold, and more shares are offering. The London quotation is £93 10s. 0d.

Marine Insurance.—The quotations for all stocks under this heading are unchanged. Sales of Canton have been reported at \$300.

Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire is firm at \$335. China Fire can be obtained at \$35.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats are easier, and have sellers at \$27. Indo-China reacted slightly in the middle of the week, in sympathy with the Northern market, but close firm at \$80 after sales at this rate. Shell Transports are offering at 30/5.

Shanghai Tugs have declined to \$54. There have been sales of Star Ferries (old) at \$56.

Refineries.—China Sugars are weak at \$140, at which price there is no seller, and shares can probably be had at a lower rate.

Mining.—Chinese Engineering continues strong at \$110, with buyers. Raubs are unchanged and are quoted at \$44. The result of the crushing for the past four weeks is to hand, showing a yield of 815 ozs. smelted gold from 5,231 tons of stone.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$90, and are firm at \$91. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after sales at \$150 have sellers at this rate. Shanghai Docks, after numerous transactions at \$110, are now advanced to \$115.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels have been sold at \$121. Kowloon Lands are offering at \$38, and may probably be had at a lower figure. Shanghai Lands are weaker and can be had at \$15. 90.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos have declined to \$15. 75 at which rate sales have taken place. A dividend of \$10 to shareholders has been declared for the year ending 31st October, 1956. Lau Kooi Mills have improved to \$15. 92 and Soei Chea has buyers at \$15. 35.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have changed hands at \$91. Green Island Cement is quoted at \$30. Langkats are unchanged at \$11. 27. The fourth interim dividend of \$1. 74 per share is due on the 15th inst. Steam Laundries have been sold at \$54. In their report for the year ending May 31st, 1956, issued to shareholders, the balance standing at the credit of Profit and Loss account is \$8,361.48, which the Directors recommend to be apportioned as follows:—To pay a dividend of 10 cents (amounting to 30 cents on the old and 15 cents on the new shares) absorbing \$5,149.35. To write off Machinery and Plant \$3,000 and to carry forward the balance of \$1,211.13 to new account. Watsons have buyers at \$114.

RAUB CRUSHING.

7th inst.

Messrs. E. S. Kadourie & Co. inform us that they are in receipt of telegraphic advices from Singapore, informing them that the crushing of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Co. for the past 4 weeks yielded 845 ozs. smelted gold from 5,231 tons stone.

BVO DIVIDEND.

1st inst.

Messrs. E. S. Kadourie & Co. inform us that they are in receipt of telegraphic advices from the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co. has declared a dividend of \$10 to per share. The transfer books of the Company will be closed from December 10th.

FRIIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke & Rogge write in their fortnightly report of the 1st inst.—The fortnightly closes on a market which is much the same as when we last wrote on the 16th inst. Handy-sized boats continue to look for paying business and inquiries there are few. The volume of chartering business is transacted during the fortnight is small.

From Saigon: Demand for this port had ceased altogether, but, since, at 10, 11 and 12 cents respectively, boats have been chartered. To the Philippines there has again been some business transacted, rates according to sizes, at between 28 and 25 cents.

We have not heard of inquiries from Saigon to anywhere else for any prompt dates. Present position is that old crops of grain is practically exhausted, and that, as concerns the new season, reports are decidedly favourable; the crop is also expected to be an early one. Business in connection with new crops of grain is already opening up.

There is said to have been business in Japan, February/March, there is also said to have been a fixture of a small Japanese steamer, (about 25,000 piculs capacity), for a series of trips to Hongkong to Singapore, 15 cents, optional to Singapore 15 cents; optional to 1 port Philippines 25 cents.

Bangkok advices, as concerns the new crop, are not quite so rose-colored, but, what the ultimate result will be concerning the two shipping ports who can tell at this stage? Bangkok, on this, there has been a fixture of a non-liner on natives' account, natives' terms, 27/20 cents, immediate loading.

From Java, there is still nothing doing. There is plenty more sugar which has to go forward to Hongkong, but it is expected that the Chinese will not ship before their new year, which would mean second half February or March. For Japan also we have traced no inquiries for any early loading.

Rajang to Hongkong, timber, there has been a charter of a suitable steamer, 1,350 tons, net, February loading, \$11,500,000 lump sum. Coal freights are quiet, both from Hongkong and Japan; Hongkong to Swatow, another fixture reported at \$1.25. Moji or Wakamatsu to Canton, \$1.50 or so might be done; Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 or so might be done.

Sailers—American ship S. P. Hitchcock, recently condemned consequent upon damage suffered by the late typhoon, has been disposed of by private treaty at \$12,000, Mex. net; it is said for bulk purposes. She appears to have been replaced, as far as her late chartering engagement goes, by American ship S. H. Sullivan, (June 14th New York for Toulon and Haiphong), just reported fixed for Baltimore and New York, Dec. 20th/January loading, under a charter arranged in the States.

Am. ship *Fox* in port repairing some damage from a typhoon encountered whilst en route from Shanghai to British Columbia. She is expected to proceed in a fortnight.

Sailers—Nothing new to advise. Mail/Passenger loading or to load—For Baltimore and New York—Am. ship J. P. Chapman, 2,516 tons, arrived 25th August. Am. ship B. D. Sullivan, 1,639 tons, to arrive from Haiphong.

Sail-tonnage Disengaged—British steel 4-m. barque *Argo*, 2,591 tons, from New York, arrived 14th November.

Departures of Sailers—Brit. bark *Edith*, 2,000 tons, for Baltimore and New York, sailed 14th November.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE crisis in the situation caused by the Japanese Budget proposals is now over, thanks to the offices of Count Katsura.

Mr. Thomas Hynes has been appointed a temporary inspector (second class) in the Sanitary Department, with effect from the 6th inst.

SERGEANT Major E. Brook, late Chinese Regiment, arrived here on Tuesday from North China, and will be attached to the 3rd Middlesex Regiment.

LIEUT. Colonel G. E. Pereira D. S. O., H. B. M.'s Military Attaché in Peking, arrived in Hongkong on 1st inst. from Hankow and left on the 3rd for Ningpo en route to Canton.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognize, provisionally and pending the issue of His Majesty's exequatur, Mr. Tokichi Tanaka as consul for Japan at Hongkong.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending November 17 amounted to 22,957 75 tons and the sales during the same period to 21,474 67 tons.

THE work on the laying-out of the Canton Public Gardens, which was temporarily suspended by order of H. E. Viceroy Chow Fu, is to be resumed at an early date and pushed forward with all speed to completion.

THE Dock tug, Robert Cooke and Edith, have been employed for the last three nights in trying to shift the steamship *Kwangchow* from her position in the mud, preparatory to raising her. On each occasion, we are informed, they failed.

LEUNG Sam, a cook, was prosecuted by Mrs. Carroll, of No. 3, Pedder's Hill, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Monday, at the Police Court, for refusing to obey her orders on Saturday last. The charge was proved and a fine of \$10 imposed.

H. E. Viceroy Chow Fu has appointed the following gentlemen to be his waywans: Tso Lup In, Koon Sam Chum, Chau Shun Fan, Lo Chung Ming, and Wu Ming Pung, while Shum Tung Yui, Hung Fai, Tso Tong, and Tso Wai Bun are to be assistant waywans.

TWO coolies were arrested by a *lukung* from No. 2 office, Canton, Friday afternoon, for affixing a poster on the walls of the Naval Yard without permission. The poster in question related to a concert. They were placed under arrest before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Saturday, at the Police Court, and were each fined \$3.

LEAVE of absence in England on private affairs has been granted to Lieutenant K. W. Smith, Royal Garrison Artillery, from 21st December, 1956, to 20th June, 1957. Station December, 1956, to 20th June, 1957. Station December, 1956, to 20th June, 1957.

A TOKIO message to the *Mainichi* states that a portion of the report drawn up as the result of the official investigation of the disaster to the battleship *Yamato* will probably be made public shortly. It is said that the explosion is attributed to a case of ammunition having caught fire through the carelessness of the sentries at the magazine.

THE manager of a grocery at No. 6, Jubilee Street and two of his accountants, were charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Wednesday, at the Police Court, with behaving in a disorderly manner in Jubilee Street yesterday afternoon. The trio pleaded guilty to the charge. The defendants had a dispute over some accounts and went into the street to finish it up. They were fined \$5 each.

THE Revd. Father Victor, the vicar of the Portuguese Mission at Singapore, will be leaving shortly for Macao where he has been promoted to be Canon of the Diocese and is now engaged in paying his visits of adieu to his parishioners, and to his large number of personal friends. His departure from Singapore will be a great loss to the Portuguese Mission in general and in particular to the St. Anthony's Boy School.—S. F. Press.

THE busting of a water main in Wellington Street shortly after nine o'clock on Tuesday put an end to traffic in that vicinity for over half an hour. Several passers-by who were passing the water main at the time got a soaking for the water rose to a height of about thirty feet. The police took the situation in hand, communicated with the water authorities, and in half an hour the flow was stopped. The street was slightly damaged.

A BOATMAN and a coolie were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, this morning, at the Police Court, at the instance of Constable Berrie, on a charge of being on a charge of being on board the coolie ship *Cransley* yesterday, without permission. The defendants pleaded guilty to the charge. The boatman, pleaded guilty to the charge. The boatman, pleaded guilty to the charge. The boatman, pleaded guilty to the charge.

INSPECTOR Withers proceeded against Wong Tsang, a stall holder in the New Western Market, on a summons, at the Police Court, on Tuesday, for being in possession of false scales. The complainant visited the stall on the 29th ultimo and on examining the scales found them deficient to the extent of five per cent. The Court was informed that defendant did a small business in bean curd. He admitted the charge and paid \$5.

CHUNG Yau, a foreman coolie, of No. 41, Pottinger Street, was summoned by the Police before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Friday, at the Police Court, for neglecting, on the 3rd inst., to exhibit a lighted lantern after sunset over the excavation work in Hill Road, West Point. The foreman said there was a lamp over the excavation. He was told that the wind had extinguished it. He was told that the wind did not put out the light, and was fined \$5.

THE case against the head coolie who was yesterday charged with assaulting the motorman of car No. 25 because the latter ran down one of his chauffeurs near Holland Street, was dismissed at the Police Court on Friday. The West Point police insisted at the trial on Thursday that they would hunt for the guilty ones, but up to this morning they did not succeed in making a capture. Mr. Hazeland held that the head coolie took no part in the fight—the complainant himself having said, so—and released him from custody.

MR. F. A. Hazeland, first police magistrate, presided over a meeting of the Justices of the Peace at the Magistracy on Tuesday. The meeting was called to consider an application from Luiz Lobo for a publican's license to sell by retail intoxicating liquors on premises situated at Nos. 149 and 150, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of the Stag Hotel. The other justices present were Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne and Mr. R. H. J. Craig. There was no police objection and the application was granted.

THE tongkong for the Coal Co. near Tawau, was launched at Sandakan at eleven o'clock on the 16th ult. from the China-Borneo Co.'s yard. Everything went smoothly, and the big craft took the water complete success. The lighter has been designed for the carriage of coal in bulk from the workings to Sandakan, and is intended to carry from 300 to 350 tons. She has two very large hatches and is fitted with patent hand capstan for heaving up anchor. She is constructed entirely of Borneo wood, and sheathed to above her light draft line. Her dimensions are 100 ft. by 35 ft. by 13 ft.—Singapore Free Press.

NINETEEN rice-peddlers were arrested at No. 305, Des Voeux Road West on Sunday morning as the result of a gambling raid made on the premises by Sergeant d'Ordon and a posse of police from No. 7 Police Station. The men were playing *pat-kou*. The police seized among other things \$4.12, which they found on a table. The nineteen men were charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court on Monday—the first two men with running a gambling house and the remainder with gambling. The two leaders were fined \$50 each, while the others paid \$3 each.

AN Indian was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Monday, on a charge of being disorderly whilst drunk on the Praya East yesterday. "In order to save the time of the Court," began defendant, "I will plead." His Worship informed accused that the time of the Court had nothing to do with him and called evidence. It was said accused was chasing three women on the Praya. These women asked police protection and the Indian was arrested. Defendant said he was a bit "staggered," but was not unconscious. He was fined \$3.

We had a visit from the hon. secretary of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, who desired us to state that the Committee of the Al Fresco Fete held on the 11th November in the compound of the Roman Catholic Cathedral are deeply thankful to the ladies and gentlemen who contributed in any way to the success of the bazaar. A. G. Fitton, D.S.O., and officers of the 2nd Bar (Queensland) String Band and for gifts. Messrs. H. Price & Co. and Mr. F. Dannenberg. The Bazaar realized after paying all expenses about \$2,300.

POLICE Constable Edwards, of Taim-tai-tai Station, appeared in the Police Court on Thursday, to prosecute Mo Ming, the master of fishing junk No. 14,622 H, for failing to carry a bright light on the fore mast of his junk at three o'clock this morning, and for attempting to leave the port during prohibited hours. Accused said that he had a light on board, but that it was at the stern of the junk. As regards the charge of attempting to leave the port defendant said he was only changing anchor. His Worship gave the skipper to understand that two lights were required on the junk and that during prohibited hours he was not supposed to raise his anchor. A fine of \$10 was imposed.

Messrs. Price and Company, wine merchants, of Queen's Road, were "at home" on Thursday to their patrons and friends, the occasion being the completion of the alterations in the construction of their premises, which has had the effect of transforming what, heretofore, was an office premises of large and airy dimensions, a provision of room plenty for the pasturing of stock without the old-time cramped, and making it easy of access to the premises, which are required by customers. Messrs. Price and Co. are an old and well-established firm of wine-merchants, and are evidently bent on keeping abreast of the times. After a tour of inspection of the enlarged premises, the health of this progressive firm was drunk in bumper.

THREE coolies were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Thursday, at the Police Court, on a charge of being found in the servants' quarters of No. 3, Stewart Terrace, the Peak, last night, without the occupier's permission. The occupier of the house in question is Mr. D. Sayle. Mr. Jackson, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, who appeared on behalf of the prosecution, when the defendants pleaded guilty to the charge, asked the Court to impose a heavy penalty. He stated that residents of the house have of late been greatly annoyed by the trespassers and he requested his Worship to make an example of these men. His Worship observed that the servants of the house were also in a great measure to blame for the presence of trespassers in the house. He fined accused \$5 each.

AHMED Gaed, an unemployed Indian, and an old man at that, with a more previous conviction that the police in the Central district could not count of it, made another appearance at the Police Court, on Thursday, on the same old charge—being noisy and disorderly in the public street, to wit, Murray Road, early this morning. On this occasion Mr. Hazeland handed out his decision good and strong. The defendant, according to the *lukung*, was running up and down Murray Road at six o'clock this morning, yelling at the top of his lungs. "I paid no heed to several warnings. Accused said he was asleep under a verandah when someone kicked him in the ribs and for a few minutes he did not know where he was. "I paid a fine of \$25, or go to gaol for one month," said the Court. He went in.

"No Native Sharebrokers admitted," is the intimation prominently preserved to the eyes of any of that description who wish to gain an office in Calcutta. The intimation is in their customary morning devotions, always pray to get into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, and the above notice is looked upon by them as a direct answer to their petitions. The native sharebrokers, as a class are of the most trustworthy description, says *Capital*, but as in other share markets of the world there are a few land-sharks who prowl about any offices into which they can sneak to try and trap the inexperienced and unwary younger into time bargains. To deal with these sharks is like playing *pat-kou* in a game. With these sharks it is always a game. With these sharks it is always a game. With these sharks it is always a game.

TWO burglaries occurred in the Central district on Thursday and in each case the burglar was captured, which speaks well for the police. The first floor of No. 10, Gilman Bazaar was entered at eight o'clock and a camphor wood box, two leather cases, and about \$50 in clothing were stolen. Shortly after the report was made a coolie named Li Tak was taken in tow by the police. The second robbery occurred later in the night. At five minutes after midnight No. 10, Arundel Road was visited and a black leather case containing about \$36 worth of clothing. The police suspected Wong Chung for this case and he was arrested. They were charged with the offence at the Police Court on Friday. The charge was proved, and Mr. Hazeland sent each man to gaol for six weeks and four hours' stocks.

MR. Crofton, chief clerk of the Colonial Secretary's Office, arraigned Mak Yau, an unemployed coolie, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Tuesday, for trespassing. The accused was found by Sanitary Inspector McKewen in the Government Stables, Lower Albert Road, yesterday afternoon. He had no permission to be there. "I went there to meet a friend," was the only excuse the wily Mak could offer, but it was not appreciated by the Court. He was fined \$7.

MR. L. Plummer, an assistant in the P. and O. S. N. Company, prosecuted Sher Dill, a fireman, employed on board the steamer *Dalit*, at the Police Court, on Tuesday, for remaining in the Colony after the departure of his ship. Defendant admitted the charge, explaining that he could not get on board the day the ship was scheduled to leave as he was ill. Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, before whom the case was heard, fined the delinquent \$25, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

SERGEANT Lee, of No. 2 Police Station, apprehended a seaman named John Watson in Arsenal Street, on Friday, and charged him at the Police Court on Monday with being a vagrant. Complaints have been made to the police of the nuisance caused by a number of benchmen who congregate daily in Arsenal Street, near the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, soliciting alms from passers-by. Watson admitted being destitute, and Mr. F. A. Hazeland ordered that he be sent to the House of Detention.

"It was a mistake on my part, your Worship," I made a mistake in the number of the house! This was the excuse tendered Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court on Monday, by a coolie named Li Sang. He was charged with breaking and entering into the second floor of No. 229, Station Street, Mongkok, at eleven o'clock last night, with intent to commit a felony. The premises were occupied by workmen. Defendant had no sooner entered than he was than he was promptly secured and handed over to the police. The mistake cost him three weeks' hard labour and six hours' stocks. Deportation will follow.

A CURIOUS accident occurred on Sunday to a European lady, which fortunately is not expected to have serious results. It appears that Mrs. Mitchell, wife of the light-house keeper at Green Island, was going up a wooden flight of stairs to a house at East Point where she was paying a call, when the stairway collapsed, and laid her and Mrs. Mitchell received a very severe blow on the head, besides a number of wounds and contusions, and was removed to hospital for treatment. Fortunately no bones were broken, and the unfortunate lady is progressing very well towards recovery from the shaking and general knock-about.

A COOLIE was arrested in Bowen Road by the Wanchai Police at about half-past eleven o'clock on Friday carrying a chopper, which the police say was to be used for unlawful purposes. He was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Saturday, carrying dangerous weapons, on a charge of carrying a chopper. The police say that the chopper was a Chinese festival and that the coolie was carrying it to a friend's house. Last year a robbery occurred there, and they are of opinion that accused's intention was robbery when he went out with the chopper.

A COOLIE caused some amusement at the Police Court on Tuesday when he was put in the witness stand to speak on behalf of a classman, who figured in the dock on a charge which was not altogether in his favour. The witness proceeded straight away to give the name of the case, but the Court wanted his name. This put the coolie into difficulties for a while as he could not remember his name. "What's your name?" asked the Court. "Umph!—Umph!—Umph!" (Then a pause). Chan Yau! He blustered out sharply. "Very convenient surname," rejoined the Court. Then the case went on.

MONDAY (3rd inst.) afternoon the entire Fleet, at present anchored in the bay that made Dewey famous, will leave for several days target practice, and will return to Cavite to make final preparations for the visit to Hongkong, starting for this port about December 10. After a visit to the port about December 10, the same mission as that which the British ships have here at present—exchanging courtesies—the fleet will return to Manila and have a preparatory drill in contemplation of their annual target practice. Admiral Brown will probably leave for America while in China as his time of active service expires July 8 of next year.—*Cable News*.

MR. F. A. Hazeland proceeded with the hearing of the Harbour Office attempted murder and stabbing case on Tuesday, at the Police Court. One of the boatmen who was stabbed, corroborated Mr. Hone's evidence to a certain extent, and went on to explain that as soon as the accused dashed for the yard he was pursued by Kwok Chuen, another boatman, who was seriously stabbed. The cries of "Help" from Kwok were heard by witness who went to his assistance, and he also was stabbed. His Worship, at the last hearing, highly commended the case was still proceeding when this report closed.

LAM Yeung, a street-coolie, made a mistake when he gave up carrying loads and got between the shafts of a ricksha, for he had not been at the job more than twenty-four hours before he became acquainted with the police. He came before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on Friday, on two charges: Plying his ricksha without a driver's licence, and driving his vehicle in a dangerous manner, endangering the life of a woman named Wong Kiu Fung, and doing damage to her clothing to the extent of \$3. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge. It appeared that complainant engaged accused's vehicle to return home yesterday afternoon. Not being a professional at the game accused zig-zagged along the road until finally he overtook the vehicle, pitching the woman out. His Worship fined him \$20 on the first charge and ordered him to give complainant \$3 compensation.

TWO burglaries occurred in the Central district on Thursday and in each case the burglar was captured, which speaks well for the police. The first floor of No. 10, Gilman Bazaar was entered at eight o'clock and a camphor wood box, two leather cases, and about \$50 in clothing were stolen. Shortly after the report was made a coolie named Li Tak was taken in tow by the police. The second robbery occurred later in the night. At five minutes after midnight No. 10, Arundel Road was visited and a black leather case containing about \$36 worth of clothing. The police suspected Wong Chung for this case and he was arrested. They were charged with the offence at the Police Court on Friday. The charge was proved, and Mr. Hazeland sent each man to gaol for six weeks and four hours' stocks.

INSPECTOR Langley, of the Water Police Station, proceeded against a coolie and an accountant at the Police Court on Wednesday for going on board the coolie ship *Cransley* yesterday afternoon, without the permission of the Captain. Mr. William Avern, the third officer of the ship, was also in Court. Accused admitted being on board, but said that the head fireman called them aboard. The police begged for a heavy penalty as the accused, they said, knew perfectly well that they are not supposed to be on board, as special policemen are paid to keep such men away from the ship. The case was adjourned to allow the head fireman to attend.

AT noon on Tuesday the police at Wanchai reported that a canvas hatch cover, valued at \$60, had been stolen from the steamship *Dugald*. The matter was turned over to the Water Police Station and Detective Sergeant Wilden was sent out to investigate. In less than three hours the cover was recovered on board the steamer *Merco*, just leaving for Shanghai. In the process a native seaman, who had stolen the cover, was taken into custody. The seaman, who said he was To Fuk, a Quartermaster, was charged at the Police Court, on Wednesday, with larceny. The complainant was Soren Steensen, master of the *Dugald*. Evidence was led, and Mr. Melbourne sentenced accused to six weeks' hard labour.

SCOTSMEN are traditionally sedate, but at a dance they endeavour to belie their character. At the dance of the Scottish Masons on Monday, for instance, the fun was fast, although by no means furious. Machado's band was in excellent trim, and the 150 couples enjoyed themselves to the utmost. There were twelve dances on the programme, but, generally, "encore" had to be given before the dance did not leave, with the result that the dance did not leave, with the result that the dance did not leave, with the result that the dance did not leave.

ONE of the largest and most elaborate Chinese funerals which have taken place in Hongkong for many years past was that of the late Chin Ah Fook, dock owner and contractor, who died some time ago, the remains having been kept for one hundred days before interment, in accordance with Chinese custom. The funeral took place at Bantawai. The procession was an enormously long one, the line of carriages, "joss" offerings, bands (of which there were three or four) extending nearly from the Bangkok bridge to that near the Bangkok library. In addition to the leading members of most of the Chinese sects in Bangkok as well as a sprinkling of *Arangs* who had been in the habit of doing business with the deceased—*Siam Observer*.

U KWOK LEUNG, a clerk, employed in the British and Afforestation department, was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Wednesday, at the Police Court, by P. C. Sheppard, on a charge of being in unlawful possession of a quantity of flowers, which were suspected to have been stolen. The constable said that a European lady complained to him yesterday that accused and two others were plucking flowers in the public gardens. Complainant waited and when accused left the gardens he was searched and four carnations were found in his unbuttoned shirt. Defendant admitted that he stole the flowers. He explained that he took an interest in botany and wanted the flowers for purposes of examination. "But you don't require four flowers for that," remarked the Court. His Worship said he would convict accused on the charge, but he would discharge him in order to allow Mr. Dunn to deal with him.

SUMMONSES, returnable on Tuesday, were issued by the Registrar-General from the Magistracy, on the 3rd inst., on B. Santos, 10, Kowloon City Road; Shek Abdullah, 101, Wanchai Road; Mohamed Omar, 14, Matheson Street; G. J. Harman, 4, Victoria View, Kowloon; F. Bradley, 1, Lochiel Terrace, Kowloon; J. H. Wilkie, A. Block, Kennedy Road; and A. A. Fanny, 10, Wanchai Road, for failing to produce at the offices of the complainant, within one month after the notice had been served, a proper certificate of the vaccination of their children. The cases were heard at the Police Court on Tuesday. Three persons did not answer the summons. Mrs. G. J. Harman appeared on behalf of her husband and that summons was adjourned to allow her husband to appear, he being at present out of the Colony. The other three defendants showed proper cause why the certificates were not handed in and they were discharged. The absent ones will have to appear on another day.

THE sugar-refining industry is one of the lines of business in which there has been a boom, says the *Japan Chronicle*. Eight large companies, with an aggregate capital of ¥9,300,000, have been newly formed in Japan, while four existing companies have increased their capital by ¥7,500,000. A charter has been granted to the Meijsu Sugar Refining Company, patronized by Baron Shibusawa, with a capital of ¥5,000,000. The company's plan is to obtain extensive sugar-cane plantations in Formosa, and to set up two large sugar refineries at Sakishisho, Ensuiko and Suiko-ko, Kagi, with machinery of the latest pattern. ¥3,000,000 will be spent on these works, keeping ¥2,000,000 in reserve for future extension of the business. The company's capital has been guaranteed by the promoter and their friends, and no shares are offered for public subscription. The first mill will be made on the shores in a few days.

SVEN Marcassen, second officer, s.s. *Daguid*, was the defendant in an assault case which was heard at the Police Court on Wednesday. He was charged with assaulting the cabin-boy, Fu Ka Mei, on board ship, yesterday. Inspector Langley said that it was his duty to take the cabin-boy from the ship after the theft of the canvas hatch cover from that ship. The defendant at first denied the allegation. The complainant, whose left eye was entirely closed and his pants spattered with blood, said that about 2.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon defendant accused witness and the head fireman of being thieves. Witness told defendant if he thought such was the case he had better give them in charge of the police. Defendant then landed out and struck witness a blow over the left eye and another on the head. At this stage the Captain of the ship and a doctor who was being said by the interpreter in English. After some further consultation the Captain was sworn in as interpreter. The defence held that the assault was committed under great provocation. The complainant was alleged to have seized defendant by the throat, and the latter, in defending himself, committed the assault. His Worship asked if the complainant could be settled out of Court. The parties left the Court for ten minutes, after which the cabin-boy said he wished to withdraw the case. This was done, and the defendant discharged.

ADMIRAL Brown sailed from Manila on the 1st inst. on the *Wilmington* for a cruise around the islands to visit the naval stations in the Philippine division. The four large cruisers now in the bay will begin their autumn manoeuvres on December 10. This will continue until about December 20, when they will move over to Hongkong and remain here until the New Year's Day, when they will return to Manila for their regular target practice. During both passages, exercises on fleet tactics will be observed as is usual during such cruises. After the end of the target practice, on December 20, the squadron will make a visit to the principal Chinese and Japanese ports in the northern part of the Asiatic station.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation, and of specie, in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th November, 1956, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:

Average Amount in Reserve

Banks. Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China \$3,151,441 \$3,302,000 Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation 13,045,090 9,000,000 National Bank of China, Limited 120,827 41,000

Total \$16,317,358 \$11,343,000

THE Customs authorities at Canton are trying their attention very strictly to newspaper-deliveries, and lately have arrested several for delivering copies of the Hongkong Chinese papers imported thereto without previously having been put through the formality of being ticketed with a stamp. The last arrest was that of a carrier of the Canton *Commercial Daily News*, who was taken in custody on Thursday by a Customs officer for delivering a bundle of unstamped papers on board a steamer for delivery in Hongkong to local subscribers. Later on the carrier was placed before the Postal Commissioner, and was fined \$35, being also warned to be more careful in future to see that all papers intended for delivery outside Canton bear Imperial Post stamps.

THE troubles in Haimen, in Chekiang province, according to a native correspondent in Ningpo are to be investigated by a joint Commission composed of a deputy sent by H. E. Chang, s'eng-yang, Governor of that province, and a representative each of the British and French Consuls-General there. The French Consul-General has appointed Tien (Chinese name) Assistant to the Roman Catholic Bishop in Chekiang as his representative on the joint Commission. In his dispatch to the British Consul-General, the French Consul-General explained the situation in Haimen as a very serious one, and that the French representative is a very cautious and reliable person who may be trusted to do his utmost to ensure harmony and good feeling in the Commission so that a definite arrangement may be arrived at which shall bring about peace and harmony for a long time between converts of the different faiths to the advantage of all concerned.—N. C. D. News.

UNDER the heading "Mad or Shamming?" we reported last week the curious behaviour of a coolie in the dock at the Police Court, who was on a charge of being in possession of a large piece of iron. Mr. Hazeland suspected the coolie of pretending to be insane and ordered him to be put under observation for a week. The gaol doctors testified a few days later that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the man, and on Tuesday he was arraigned